

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATIONS J.W. "SKIP"
TINNEN UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PAT DANNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 1999

Ms. DANNER. Mr. Speaker, my good friend and constituent, J.W. "Skip" Tinnen will soon be retiring from the board of directors of Saint Luke's Northland Hospital and I want to express my best wishes to him on this occasion.

Skip was first elected to the board of directors of the Spelman Memorial Hospital (which later became Saint Luke's Northland Hospital in 1978). He served as an active member of the board until January 1999, when he was elected to Emeritus status, and he continues to serve in this capacity. He is the first member of the board of Saint Luke's Northland or Spelman Memorial Hospital to serve in this role.

Skip has actively served on many committees of the hospital board including Finance Committee, Long Range Planning Committee, Joint Conference Committee, Public Relations & Personnel Committee and Strategic Planning Committee. During the years 1994 and 1995 he had a perfect attendance at hospital board meetings. He has been very active in the expansion of the hospital facility. Also, he has been an active supporter of the philanthropic efforts of the hospital which include the golf classic and serving as vice president of the Spelman Medical Foundation.

Not only has Skip served the local health care community, he is also active in many civic and community organizations. He is the owner of the Plattsburg Leader newspaper and is very active with the Northwest Missouri Press Association.

Skip Tinnen's contributions to Saint Luke's Northland Hospital, the community, the sixth Congressional District of Missouri and our Nation should not go unnoticed. For all his many efforts on behalf of that which is good in our country, I want to say "Thank you, Skip, job well done."

TRIBUTE TO HAMMOND
CARPENTERS UNION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate some of the most dedicated and skilled workers in Northwest Indiana. On September 18, 1999, in a salute to their workers' durability and longevity, the Hammond Carpenters Union Local 599 will recognize their members with 25 years or more of dedicated service. They will be recognized at a pin ceremony during their 100 year anniversary celebration banquet to be held this Saturday at the Operating Engineers

Local 150 Hall in Merrillville, Indiana. These individuals, in addition to the other Local 599 members who have served Northwest Indiana so diligently for such a long period of time, are a testament to the proto-typical American worker: loyal, dedicated, and hardworking.

The Carpenters Local 599, which received its charter in 1899, will honor members for their years of devoted service. The members who will be honored for 60 years of service include: Frank E. Caise and Frank Rueth. The members who will be honored for 50 years of service include: Willard Rains and Wayne Verble. The members who will be honored for 45 years of service include: Ronald Carlson and Leo Ceroni. The members who will be honored for 40 years of service include: Ezequile J. Lopez and Walter Wisinski. The members who will be honored for 35 years of service include: Donald Archer, Robert L. Farkas, Paul Hornak, Joseph W. Komoroski, Robert Lowry, Harold G. McMillion, Bernard Ritchey, Edward T. Scheeringa, Darrell E. Sils, and John Verbeek. The members who will be honored for 30 years of service include: G.A. Argentine, Charles A. Gibbs, Raymond J. Maida, Rudy Medellin, and William R. Underwood. The members who will be honored for 25 years of service include: Daniel R. Brown, Timothy P. Foley, and John S. Perz.

As Orville Dewey said, "Labor is man's greatest function. He is nothing, he can be nothing, he can achieve nothing, he can fulfill nothing, without working." The men and women of Local 599, in addition to all of the local unions in Northwest Indiana, form the backbone of our economy and community. Without their blood, sweat, and tears, Indiana's First Congressional District would not be the place I love, nor would it be my proud home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated, honorable, and outstanding members of the Hammond Carpenters Union Local 599, in addition to all the hard-working union men and women in America. The men and women of Local 599 are a fine representation of America's union men and women; I am proud to represent such dedicated individuals in Congress. Their hard labor and dauntless courage are the achievement and fulfillment of the American dream.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
BLOCKING RETURN TO WORK
HELP FOR THE NATION'S DIS-
ABLED

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, important health care legislation to provide work incentives for the disabled was unanimously passed by the Senate on June 16, 1999 (S. 331) and approved by the House Commerce Committee

on July 1st (H.R. 1180) this year. Since then, this bill which was jointly referred to the Ways and Means Committee has been stalled and blocked. The Ways and Means Committee has done nothing to move this legislation forward despite the fact that this bill is good policy and has widespread support (229 cosponsors in the House and 79 cosponsors in the Senate).

According to the Social Security Administration, 8 million people of working age now collect disability benefits under Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). While America's unemployment rate is the lowest in decades, the unemployment rate among working age adults with disability is nearly 75%. H.R. 1180 will help the disabled re-enter the workplace, yet Ways and Means refuses to act.

The current SSDI and SSI legislation forces the disabled to choose between work and health insurance coverage. The choice between being unproductive or uninsured is inherent to SSDI's and SSI's definition of disability which equates disability with unemployability. This is a distorted view in a world where individual worth and accomplishment are measured in the workplace.

Surveys show that most people of working age with disabilities want to work; however, they are fearful of losing health care coverage if they seek employment and then lose their job. The result is that less than half of one percent of SSDI beneficiaries and only about one percent of SSI beneficiaries ever actually leave the SSA disability rolls to return to work.

It is difficult to overstate the benefits associated with holding a job when you suffer from physical or mental impairment. The restoration of emotional wellbeing associated with feelings of self-worth and accomplishment causes a domino effect with a cascade of benefits that goes well beyond the monetary value of employment. It is well recognized that depression is endemic among the disabled and that depression frequently contributes to a downward spiral of hopelessness, helplessness and amplified symptoms. Doctors understand that there is no prescription in their medical bag that will remedy this vicious cycle; in the absence of a cure, what the patient really needs are the tools to adjust to chronic impairment.

Today's challenge in health care is to empower each individual to live productively in the face of impairment. We cannot delude ourselves that medicine through research and clinical excellence will master the problems of death and disability. We cannot look to new miracles to prevent, cure and effectively treat every ailment. The reality is that improving clinical practice is likely to increase, not reduce the ranks of the disabled. We bear the responsibility to integrate individuals with impairments as fully as possible into the fabric of our society. Indeed, we cannot afford to squander the skills and talents of these individuals.

The fact is we should not confuse the difference between impairment and disability.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Unfortunately, impairment is common and frequently permanent. Disability occurs when impairment has serious functional consequences. Our governmental programs should promote the realization of the full potential of the impaired individual, thereby minimizing disability. Health-promoting legislation provides incentives to return to the marketplace, providing a secure safety net for those who require it.

The Work Incentive Improvement Act is one step in the right direction—empowering individuals with impairments by emphasizing new possibilities rather than lost potential. The Ways and Means Social Security and Health Subcommittees have lost their way if we do not grasp this important opportunity to acknowledge the value of disabled Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE STUDENTS OF YOUTH TOGETHER AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR "WEEK OF UNITY: ONE LAND, ONE PEOPLE"

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the students of the Ninth Congressional District as they return to their classrooms for the 1999–2000 school year. In particular, I wish to highlight a group of students who are working diligently to ensure peace and harmony in our schools.

Throughout the week of September 7 through 13, 1999, students from Berkeley, Castlemont, Fremont, Richmond, and Skyline High Schools, celebrated a "Week of Unity: One Land, One People." These students are members of the Youth Together Project, a multiracial violence prevention and social justice project which operates in each of the five high schools. The event is an attempt by Youth Together students and their allies—students, teachers, parents, and community leaders—to unite students of all races together to promote unity and peace on their school campuses. It is a concept of unity, reconnecting us to our ancestors and homelands, reminding us that we are all native/tribal people struggling in an urban environment. It is based upon the creation belief held by our Native American foremothers and fathers that we are all descendants of one land and one people.

The theme for this year's event was eloquently taken from a quote by Dr. Martin Luther King, "True peace is not merely the absence of tension: it is the presence of justice." Some of the many activities and initiatives held during the "Week of Unity" included: The Castlemont Unity Mural, honoring 17 Americans who have come to represent the struggle for recognition and inclusion in the ideal of a united community. The "Commitment To Peace Banner" which involved students and adults asking all students to sign a banner committing themselves to peaceful conflict resolution. In addition, a mentoring program has been proposed that would connect seniors and juniors with incoming ninth graders to help promote a safe and comfortable transition for new students.

The students hope to establish the "Week of Unity: One Land, One People" as an annual

event at each of their campuses. The main objectives of the event are to prevent outbreaks of violence and to set a positive tone that will determine the environment for the rest of the school year. By taking leadership and ownership of their schools, students are demonstrating through action the vision of a united community based upon principles of respect, justice and peace. These and many other initiatives stand as incontrovertible evidence that the young people of Oakland, Berkeley, and Richmond have a clear understanding of the multicultural issues that exist in their communities and are not afraid to stand up and take the lead in combating problems where they exist.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say how proud I am that the students of Youth Together understand that Native Americans, African Americans, Latinos, Asian Pacific Islanders and whites must come together to work for peace and justice in our schools and communities. In addition, I believe that the work being done by students in my district proves to the world that our young people are for real in seeking peace and justice and are living and working each and every day the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

TRIBUTE TO JOSÉ CHARFAUROS NEDEDOG

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sense of sadness that I acknowledge the passing of one of Guam's leaders. The Honorable José Charfauros Nededog, a member of the 4th Guam Legislature, recently passed away at the age of 79.

Senator Nededog was born on January 31, 1920, in the village of Agat—the son of Emilio Nededog and Carmen Charfauros Nededog. He attended Bishop Olaiz Elementary School in Agat and graduated from Seaton Schroeder High School in Agana. Prior to enlisting in the United States Navy, he attended Phillip Commercial School in Honolulu, HI. Having enlisted in the Navy, Senator Nededog took personnel supervision courses in Brooklyn, NY, and Naval Intelligence Courses at Pearl Harbor, HI. He served during World War II, attaining the rank of Chief Petty Officer in the Naval Reserve.

He was elected to represent the people of Guam and serve in the 4th Guam Legislature. His experience as a senator enabled him to further serve the people as a member of several governmental councils. He was a member of the Territorial Planning Commission, the Bureau of Planning Council, the Manpower Resource and Development Council, the Seashore Protection Agency, and the First Constitutional Convention. At various times, he served as Center Director, Program Director, and Executive Director of the Government of Guam's Office of Economic Opportunity. He also served as Executive Director of the 17th Guam Legislature.

In addition to his government service, Senator Nededog also worked in the private sector. He was the general manager of the Kaneohe Venetian Manufacturing Co. in Hawaii, the sales and promotion manager of the

Marianas Electric and Supply Co., and the general manager of Universal Insurance and Realty Co.

The Senator was also active in community organizations. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post at Pearl Harbor, HI. In addition, he was active with the Kaneohe Welfare Association and OEO, 9th District. In his desire to help the youth and be a role model, he worked with the Boy Scouts Committee, Troop 5 at Mount Carmel Parish in the village of Agat. He also served as Scout Master for Troop 113, St. Ann's Parish at Kaneohe, HI.

The passing of the late Senator José Charfauros Nededog is a loss felt by the whole island. On behalf of the people of Guam, I offer my condolences and join his widow, the former Josefina Torres, and their children, Joseph, George, Melvin, Franklin, Kathleen, and Jocelyn, in mourning the loss of a husband, a father, and fellow legislator and servant to the people of Guam. Adios, Senator Nededog.

INTERNET CONSUMER INFORMATION PROTECTION ACT

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, the age of the Internet has put more and more Americans on-line and is evolving faster than we could have ever imagined. Each day new companies and industries form out of the constant technological innovation that has come to symbolize this information superhighway. It has allowed average people sitting in their living rooms the opportunity to connect with a myriad of businesses and services. However, with this convenience there comes a growing concern that private information is being misused. Today, I am introducing the Internet Consumer Information Protection Act in an effort to address this problem.

The Internet Consumer Information Protection Act will allow people to regain control over their own personal information without unnecessarily hindering those services which collect data for legitimate purposes. Under this legislation, any customer data gathered by an entity could not be passed on to a third party unless: notice is provided, consumers are allowed an opportunity to direct that the information not be shared; and are given the opportunity, at no charge, to review, verify or correct any data compiled. Internet services would still be allowed to share information with affiliates and would also be allowed to supply data to third parties for the purpose of performing services or functions except for marketing purposes, provided that such entity would have an affirmative responsibility barring the use or sharing of such data.

Obviously, issues involving the internet are complex and constantly changing, and therefore deserve careful and thoughtful consideration. It is important to note that the focus of this legislation is not to stop the accumulation and transactional use of data, but to give consumers a sense of understanding and effective control over their own information. Also, such policy would function to ensure that such entities take responsibility to maintain the integrity of the information being used for intended purposes.

As the Internet becomes as integral part of our daily lives, it is imperative that we in Congress take a common sense approach, like this proposed legislation, to ensure that businesses are able to benefit from this technology while citizens are able to retain a voice and aren't asked to involuntarily sacrifice their own personal privacy in the name of an undefined information age. The preservation of privacy is a cherished freedom which unchecked technology must not be allowed to circumvent or exploit.

TRIBUTE TO MERVYN MOSBACKER

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding young man and American who has dedicated his life to the pursuit of justice, Mervyn Mosbacker.

Mervyn is the new U.S. attorney for the Southern Judicial District of Texas. He is a native of Brownsville, TX, and an eminently qualified lawman. Last year, Mervyn was recommended unanimously, by members of the Texas Delegation who represent congressional districts in the Southern Judicial District of Texas, to fill the vacancy for the position of U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Texas in Houston.

The White House nominated him, and the Senate confirmed him in short order. Mervyn was an attractive candidate to us for his position for many reasons, not the least of which was the ease with which this clean-cut young lawyer already working in the U.S. Attorney's Office already would glide through the vetting process.

Mervyn was born in Mexico and his mother, who currently lives in Brownsville, is from Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas. He will bring a very unique understanding of the needs of this judicial district to the U.S. Attorney's Office. He knows what is important to us here in South Texas because of our shared experiences.

He is familiar with the issues that bring cases to the courts along the border such as drugs, trade law, international law, and illegal immigration. His tenure of service in the U.S. Attorney's Office brings a history of knowledge of how the office works.

The position of U.S. attorney is a sacred position of the public trust. This is the advocate of the interests of the taxpayers of South Texas. The U.S. attorney is the Federal representative for the interests of justice under our laws in local areas. It is an honor to hold this position, but it entails an enormous responsibility as well.

I am enormously confident that Mervyn Mosbacker will bring South Texas common sense to the Office of United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas. I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Mervyn today as he takes the oath of office as U.S. attorney.

TRIBUTE TO SHEET METAL WORKERS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate some of the most dedicated and skilled workers in northwest Indiana. On September 17, 1999, in a salute to their workers' durability and longevity, the Sheet Metal Workers Local #20, of Gary, Indiana, will honor their members with sixty, forty, and twenty-five years of continuous service. These individuals, in addition to the other Local #20 members who have served northwest Indiana so diligently for such a long time, are a testament to the prototypical American worker: loyal, dedicated, and hard-working.

The men and women of Local #20 are a fine representation of America's working families. I am proud to represent such dedicated men and women in Congress. The Sheet Metal Workers Constitution states, " * * * to establish and maintain desirable working conditions and thus provide for themselves and their families that measure of comfort, happiness, and security to which every citizen is entitled in return for his labor, from a deep sense of pride in our trade, to give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay." For sixty years, Edward Shirkko and Denator Migliorini have followed this creed. For fifty years, the following individuals have followed this creed: Mike Busika, James Cameron, Earl Chance, Melvin Crook, Marvin Forsythe, Vernon W. Hoehn, Eugene Hornrich, James Kocman, Eugene Koontz, Richard McClelland, Marcus Meyer, Charles D. Meyers, James Moscato, Raymond Mueller, Joseph E. Mullholland, William D. Nielsen, Chester Nowak, Ray Ritthaler, William Singel, Joseph Zeman, and Thomas M. Zimmer. In 1959, Jack Bacon, J.B. Bugg, Melvin Earnhart, Willima K. Hart, Vernon W. Hoehn, Louis Holzli, James R. Hood, Dellis Ivers, Leroy Johnson, Homer Keller, Robert Kish, Gordon LaBounty, Frank Macewicz, Jr., Clyde Martin, Gilbert Mecchia, Terry Messenich, Donald O'Dell, Homer Rachford, Lorne Rearick, John Sisco, and Daniel Wracker began their forty years of service to northwest Indiana and membership in the Sheet Metal Workers trade union. In addition to the great service and dedication displayed by the sixty, fifty, and forty-year continued service members, the members with twenty-five years of continued service that will be honored include: Daniel Bajda, Frank Beigelbeck, Lloyd Bielski, Timothy Bolster, Joseph L. Byres, Dan Gross, James Hirschfelder, Ted Jones, Vincent Macielewicz, James Odle, Peter Nielson, Larry P. Long, Tom Lopez, Donald McAuliffe, James Moskalick, John Moskalick, Leo Plawewski, Glen Shanks, Benito Torres, David Towasnicki, Thomas D. Zimmer, Melvin Lolkema, and William J. Singel.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated, upstanding members of the Sheet Metal Workers Local #20 for their hard work in fulfilling the American dream. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to these individuals, as they have worked arduously to make

this dream possible for others. They have proven themselves to be distinguished advocates for the labor movement, and they have made northwest Indiana a better place in which to live and work.

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE FOR THE ELDERLY SHOWS UNITED STATES LAGS FAR BEHIND MAJOR INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, my staff recently conducted an analysis of eight industrialized nations and found that the United States is the only country lacking government-sponsored prescription drug coverage for its senior citizens.

The chart I am submitting today clearly illustrates our Government's failure to provide pharmaceutical coverage for seniors who need it most.

Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, France, Sweden, and the Netherlands all provide universal prescription drug coverage for the elderly. The UK and France fully exempt the elderly from copayments for certain prescription drugs. Sweden provides a similar exception, but in no case charges seniors more than a \$10 copayment for prescription drugs or more than \$200 in annual out-of-pocket expenses. The findings clearly show that elderly Americans are being denied a fair system of drug coverage.

Further, recent analyses show that drug prices in the United States are surging by 18 percent per year, with the result that more seniors will be unable to purchase needed medications. Yet the elderly have a particular need for prescription drug coverage, as seniors purchase one-third of all prescription drugs while they only comprise 12 percent of our population.

As employer-sponsored retiree health coverage in the United States rapidly erodes and Medicare HMO's pull out of many markets and lower existing drug benefits, it is time to recognize that the private sector will never be able to guarantee drug coverage for all seniors. In contrast, adding an outpatient drug benefit to Medicare would do exactly that.

If so many other industrialized nations can provide prescription drug coverage for their senior citizens, why can't we?

I urge you to support legislation to add a prescription drug benefit to Medicare. If we do not, we will do great harm to millions of seniors who lack any drug insurance to pay for medications their doctors prescribe.

Contrary to what the pharmaceutical industry would have you believe, the debate is not about price controls. The debate is about coverage.

GOVERNMENT SPONSORED PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

		Country—						
	United States	Canada	United Kingdom	Germany	Japan	Netherlands	France	Sweden
National Policy.	No outpatient prescription drug coverage for seniors under Medicare. Medicaid provides prescription drug coverage for some low-income seniors; policies vary by state.	All provinces provide prescription drug plans for senior citizens, with copayments that vary by province.	Prescription drug coverage with co-payments; exemptions from some copayments for people over age 60.	Copayments range from \$5 to \$7, depending on the prescription. Patients also pay the difference between government reimbursed price and the market price (typically the difference between generic and name brand.	Free medical care for all individuals over age 70 (over 65, if bed-ridden), with nominal co-payments. Free care includes "supply of medications." Additional nominal co-payment for individuals taking more than one, two to three, or six or more prescription drugs per day.	Patient cost sharing of 20 percent, up to a maximum level. In addition, patients pay difference between maximum reimbursed price and the market price, similar to Germany.	"Essential drugs" (e.g., cancer treatment) require no cost sharing. "Normal prescriptions" (e.g., antibiotics) require 30% cost sharing. "comfort" drugs (e.g., tranquilizers) require 60% cost sharing. Elderly individuals with a need for multiple drugs are reimbursed for all costs.	No charge for pharmaceuticals for treatment of chronic diseases. \$10 co-payment for all other prescription drugs. Annual copayments capped at \$200, for combination of prescription drugs, physician consultations, physical therapy, and hospital inpatient care
Does this coverage exist for non-elderly?	No. Low-income individuals may be covered under Medicaid. Varies by state.	No. Extent of coverage varies by province.	Yes. However, coverage for elderly is more generous.	Yes	Yes. However, coverage for elderly is more generous.	Yes	Yes. However, coverage for elderly needing multiple drugs is more generous.	Yes

Source: The Boston Consulting Group, Inc. "Ensuring Cost-Effective Access to Innovative Pharmaceuticals: Do market Interventions Work?", April 1999. Graig, Laurene A., Health of Nations: An International Perspective of U.S. Health Care Reform. (Congressional Quarterly Inc. Washington, DC: 1999). Lassey, Marie L., Lassey, William, R., and Martin J. Jinks. Health Care Systems Around the World: Characteristics, Issues, Reforms. (Prentice Hall, New Jersey: 1997).

RECOGNIZING STANLEY M. CHESLEY UPON HIS RECEIVING THE SHALOM PEACE AWARD

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stanley M. Chesley, a distinguished constituent, who will receive the prestigious Shalom Peace Award from the Jewish National Fund on November 6, 1999.

The Shalom Peace Award is given to those who have made outstanding contributions to Israel and peace. It has been presented to an individual only eight times in the 99 year history of the Jewish National Fund. In receiving the award, Mr. Chesley joins other esteemed recipients, including Elie Weisel, Lady Margaret Thatcher, General Colin Powell, and Jihan Sadat.

Stan Chesley was born on March 26, 1936 in Cincinnati. He received his B.A. from the University of Cincinnati in 1958 and his LL.B. in 1960. He was admitted to the bar in 1960, and joined the law firm that is now known as Waite, Schneider, Bayless & Chesley, L.P.A. Mr. Chesley currently serves as President of the firm. He is a member of the bars of the Supreme Court of the United States, the Supreme Court of Ohio, and the United States District Court of Appeals for the Second, Fourth and Sixth Circuits. For eight years, he served on the Supreme Court of Ohio's Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline, and was Vice Chair for two years. He has been a lecturer and author for the American Bar Association and many other legal organizations.

While Stan Chesley is an accomplished and successful attorney, he also is well known for his dedicated public service. In 1995, he was appointed to the United States Holocaust Museum Council by President Clinton. He also serves on the National Board of Governors of Hebrew Union College, the National Executive Committee of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the National Board of Directors of the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science, the Board of Trustees of the University of Cincinnati and Board of Directors of the University of Cincinnati Foundation. He generously gives of his time to these and many other worthwhile organizations and causes in Greater Cincinnati.

Cincinnati salutes Stan Chesley as he receives this well deserved recognition.

WELCOMING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN TO THE WOMEN, SPIRITUAL MIDWIVES OF THE MILLENNIUM CONFERENCE

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, this weekend women from across the world will gather in Windsor, Ontario to celebrate 300 years of international diversity at the "Women, Spiritual Midwives of the Millennium" Conference.

This weekend's conference will emphasize the important role women play in breaking down the walls of racism and will celebrate the differences that make each woman unique. I would like to extend my enthusiastic support to the conference participants as they unite women from all corners of the world with their healing message of love and understanding.

Leading the conference will be two dynamic women whose strong spirituality has defined their careers, Marianne Williamson and Reverend Ortheia Barnes-Kennerly.

Marianne Williamson has earned international acclaim for her talents as an author and lecturer. Her words have motivated and inspired. Ms. Williamson co-founded The Renaissance Alliance, a non-profit organization applying spiritual principles to social and political issues, and is committed to causes benefiting people with life-threatening illness. In addition to her other accomplishments, Marianne Williamson is the spiritual leader of the Church of Today, the Unity Church of Warren, Michigan. Ms. Williamson is a role model for young women everywhere and an extraordinary example of the selflessness of the human spirit.

Reverend Ortheia Barnes-Kennerly's life has been defined by her commitment to diversity and spirituality. She and her husband, Robert E. Kennerly, founded the SpiritLove Ministries in Detroit. Through both words and song, Reverend Barnes-Kennerly has moved people of all colors and creeds to love and heal.

Today I recognize the efforts of Marianne Williamson and the Reverend Ortheia Barnes-Kennerly and encourage them to continue to preach their messages of unity and strength.

TRIBUTE TO THE ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF GUAM

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago, Bishop Apollinaris William Baumgartner laid the groundwork for the establishment of the Academy of Our Lady of Guam. With the assistance of my aunt, Sister Mary Inez Underwood, the Academy first opened its doors on September 8, 1949—the first class consisting of 36 freshmen who received classroom instruction from within a section of the Agana Cathedral Activities Hall. Within that hall, the students developed skills in the sciences, mathematics, language and fine arts under the able direction of the Sisters of Mercy.

Under Monsignor Felixberto Camacho Flores, the future Archbishop of Agana, construction of a permanent structure for the school commenced in 1960. Since then, the Academy has attained high standards of education and has been at the forefront in delivering quality educational services to the young women of Guam. From an initial enrollment of 36 students in 1949, the student body now consists of over 400 young women. In 1973, it became the first high school on Guam to receive full accreditation. Under the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the Academy has gone through the accreditation process four times since—the last being in March of 1996.

Through the years, the Academy has distinguished itself as one of the finest college and career-bound preparatory schools on Guam and the Western Pacific. Due to the school's high academic standards, Academy students have brought honors to the island of Guam. As presidential scholars, national merit scholars and national and international sports competition champions, Academy students have garnered honors and brought them back to Guam. Today, we find the school's graduates in various leadership positions. The Academy has generated, among others, doctors, judges, lawyers, corporate executives, diplomats, and public officials.

As this fine Catholic institution celebrates its golden jubilee, I extend my sincerest congratulations to the administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumnae of the Academy of Our Lady of Guam. For fifty years, the Academy

has provided quality education and guidance to Guam's young women. As a result, the school's alumnae have made substantial contributions toward the transformation of Guam from an island ravaged by war in the forties to its present status as a political and economic center in the Western Pacific. I am confident that this institution of faith and learning will continue its commitment to excellence by providing a valuable educational opportunity to the young women of Guam.

**HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
BILL PETERSON, MINNESOTA
AFL-CIO SECRETARY-TREASURER**

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to my colleagues attention the retirement of an individual who has committed his life as a tireless advocate for working men and women in Minnesota and our nation, Bill Peterson. Mr. Peterson has announced that he will retire from his nine years of service as the Minnesota AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer. Before that, Bill served as the Executive Secretary of the Minnesota Building Trades and business representative to the Iron Workers Local 512.

I have had the privilege of knowing Bill Peterson since his days as a "hand" on the job. In fact, he has had the benefit of working and associating with all of the Vento Boys (Dan, Frank, Kurt and myself) since he first started on his journey of the building trades leadership. He began as an Ironworker Business Representative, followed as the MN Building Trades Executive Secretary and eventually was elected to serve as the AFL-CIO Minnesota State Federation Secretary-Treasurer.

During his many years of service, Bill Peterson has worked to improve the quality of life for working families. His effectiveness during tough times as a spokesman for the Minnesota AFL-CIO has greatly benefited working people and educated more than one legislator. Under Bill Peterson, there have been great strides in the development of worker pension programs, the availability of year-round work for members of the building trades, the State Davis-Bacon law, the State Apprenticeship Council, and Union Labor Project contract agreements. Today and tomorrow, worker's conditions and wages will continue to evolve on the basis of the foundation established by building trade labor leaders like Bill Peterson.

There have also been some very tough events during Bill's tenure. One vivid event I'll always recall is when the tower antenna went down in Shoreview and iron workers lost their lives. While we grieved over their deaths, we also resolved not to let this accident go unnoticed. As a result, when Minnesota joined in the establishment of a worker's memorial day, it is events like this that are remembered. The Minnesota Building Trades have also been leaders for tough Occupational Health and Safety Act enforcement, with Bill Peterson in the forefront leading the fight for on the job safety and health.

Bill Peterson will best be remembered for his commitment to education and to the chil-

dren of working men and women. When the federal commitment to State Apprenticeship programs was under attack, Bill Peterson rallied Congressional and national labor to keep this important training program in place. As a key elected state-wide Member of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents, Bill has been a strong voice for working families, advocating forcefully to keep a college education as a financially viable option for the children of working families and for working men and women seeking new careers.

In addition to his professional activities, Bill has been a volunteer extraordinaire, donating his time and talents for my benefit and that of many others. It is in that role that I will always remember Bill. While many will remember him working the halls of the State Capitol or speaking at the State AFL-CIO convention, I will always picture Bill in an apron carrying a pot of Minnesota corn at the annual Vento Corn Feed for 25 years.

Despite the health challenges that have been a part of his life from youth, Bill has done much more than his share as a professional and a volunteer. His life's work provides labor brothers and sisters the shoulders to stand upon as today's and tomorrow's Minnesota Union movement and views move into the future.

Bill Peterson is truly an example of those whose successful leadership has positively promoted rights for the workers and workers families in our community. We are all richer for his advocacy, his hard work and most importantly, his friendship. I, as many throughout the labor-political sphere, deeply appreciate his friendship, support and counsel through the years.

All my best to Bill and also to his family, who have provided support through the years: his wife Lolly, their three children and grandchildren. It is with heartfelt thanks that I wish Bill Peterson the best of health and a well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO OTTO McMATH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to one of the most committed, most dedicated and most courageous public interest advocates this country has ever known, Mr. Otto McMath.

Whereas, the Almighty God has called to his eternal rest, my friend and neighbor, Mr. Otto McMath; and whereas, for more than twenty years, Mr. Otto McMath was an integral part of the staying power of the South Austin Coalition Community Council; and whereas, the South Austin Coalition Community Council, is one of the most effective organizations of its kind; and whereas, Otto McMath and his neighbors have been instrumental in developing, promoting, and generating funds for the Low Energy Assistance Program, fighting back against redlining and other forms of economic discrimination and in developing community policing and neighborhood safety programs. As a member of SACCC, Mr. McMath's acts of heroism are legendary. He was never a limelighter; but could always be counted upon to rise to the occasion when the need presented itself.

Mr. McMath had a serious understanding of community interest and functioned with a high level of principle. He was never one to go along to get along or to make decisions on the basis of individual self interest or expediency. He was a true warrior, a true soldier and a true hero for the people.

I thank you Otto McMath. You knew how to live and you have died with dignity.

**SPANISH PARKS WILDERNESS ACT
OF 1999**

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 13, 1999

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 898 to designate certain land in the San Isabel National Forest in the State of Colorado as the "Spanish Peaks Wilderness". I believe wilderness designation for the Spanish Peaks is a critical first step toward preserving the unique, pristine wild lands in Colorado. In the last Congress, I cosponsored legislation introduced by Representative David Skaggs and cosponsored by Representative McINNIS which would have protected Spanish Peaks as wilderness.

This year's version is a good bill, but it contains a change which causes great concern. Unfortunately, a new provision in the bill allows the Forest Service to continue to permit motorized access to an off-road segment of the Wahatoya trailhead. This provision is both unnecessary and environmentally damaging. I hope the legislation will be amended to prevent such motorized use in this off-road segment.

With the introduction of H.R. 829, the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1999, and H.R. 898, I am heartened that we are having an active and thoughtful debate on wilderness. The majority of Coloradans believe that we must protect the forty-nine areas designated in my legislation as well as the Spanish Peaks. These areas constitute the backbone of our state's beauty and are essential in preserving our quality of life.

I commend my colleague for recognizing the importance of preserving lands like the Spanish Peaks Wilderness.

**MARKING THE DAY THAT
NGAWANG CHOEPHEL WAS DE-
TAINED BY THE GOVERNMENT
OF CHINA IN 1995**

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today marks the day the Ngawang Choephel, a Tibetan musicology student at Middlebury College in Vermont, was detained by the Government of China four years ago. Ngawang Choephel studied musicology at Middlebury College on a Fulbright scholarship, and he was reported missing in 1995 while researching folk music in Tibet as part of his studies. It was more than a year before the Government of China acknowledged his arrest and imprisonment.

He is currently serving an 18-year prison term in a remote area of China. His mother has not seen him in more than 3 years, and officials of the Government of China refuse to allow her to see him.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of China has never produced any evidence whatsoever that Ngawang Choephel engaged in any political or illegal activity. His imprisonment is part of the Government of China's brutal campaign of repression in Tibet, Choephel's home.

We must not let Ngawang Choephel be forgotten. We must continue to use all the means at our disposal to secure his release from an unjust imprisonment on trumped-up charges, and we must continue our efforts to keep human rights high on this country's foreign policy agenda. Until we see genuine progress on human rights in China, we should withhold the granting of Most Favored Nation trading status, and we should urge U.S. corporations to stop investing in China. This kind of effort helped topple apartheid in South Africa, and there is no reason to believe it would not have an effect on the human rights situation in China.

I urge my colleagues to hold the Government of China accountable for its human rights abuses, and hasten the day that Ngawang Choephel is free again.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on September 9, 1999, I had to be in New York on official business and missed rollcall votes 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, and 404. I ask that the record reflects that had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 399, "aye" on rollcall vote 400, "nay" on rollcall vote 401, "aye" on rollcall vote 402—the motion to recommit the VA/HUD Appropriations, "nay" on rollcall vote 403, the FY 99 VA/HUD Appropriations bill, and "nay" on rollcall vote 404, the DC Appropriations Conference Report.

ACKNOWLEDGE THE EXCELLENT WORK OF THE COOPERATIVE CENTER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, we, Representatives BARBARA LEE and STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, note that this week, the 29th Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference will be taking place in Washington, D.C. An Issue Forum on Credit Unions is being held on September 16, 1999 to expand on the critical knowledge that "Credit Unions Bring Power and Wealth to the Community".

The impetus for, and the success of this Forum is largely the work of Ms. Carole Kennerly, Director of the Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union, and the team that she brought together to develop this issue forum.

Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge the work done, and congratulate the members, employees, staff, board of directors and committee volunteers of the Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union (CCFCU) for its initiative in proposing and holding the Credit Union Issue Forum on September 16, 1999 and for bringing it to the attention of the 29th annual legislative conference of the Congressional Black Caucus in Washington, D.C.

Special appreciation is expressed to these individuals:

National Chairperson: Carole Kennerly, CCD, Director, Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union.

Coordinators:

IfeTayo, T.L. Bonner-Payne, Supervisory Committee, Cooperative Center, FCU.

Shirley A. Sheffield, Member, Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union.

Kim Medley, Member, Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union.

Joseph Villa, Former President/CEO, Allen Temple Baptist Church Federal Credit Union.

Barry Kane, V.P., Central Region Branches, Governmental Affairs, Patelco Credit Union.

Chris Kerecman, V.P., Federal Governmental Affairs, California Credit Union League. Odessa J. Woods-Mathews, member, Social Security Administration Federal Credit.

Dr. Gwendolyn Nurse-Wright, Paragon Federal Credit Union, Englewood Cliff, N.J.

Rosemary George, Communication Specialist, National Credit Union Administration.

Patricia Brownell, V.P., Credit Union Development, National Credit Union Foundation.

N. Sharifah Ibsan, graphic artist.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain my vote regarding H. Con. Res. 180, a resolution that expresses the sense of Congress that President Clinton should not have granted clemency to members of the FLAN. During my tenure in Congress, I have supported strong antiterrorism measures. I oppose the actions of the President and oppose the release of these prisoners. These acts of terrorism are obviously deplorable, and I am especially concerned about the lack of remorse shown by these prisoners. But I also oppose taking this vote before hearings are held and evidence is reviewed, given the fact that this resolution challenges the constitutional authority of the President. Thus, I have voted "present" on this bill.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLLUTION PREVENTION WEEK

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and support September 20–26 as National Pollution Prevention Week, which will be observed in the Second District of Ohio and throughout the Nation.

One of the most cost-effective ways to have clean streets, drinkable water, and breathable air is to focus on preventing pollution before it is created. Often, this is best achieved locally. The Greater Cincinnati Earth Coalition has done just that by forming a Regional Waste Reduction Group to focus on such things as energy conservation, plastics recycling, and generally reducing waste at the local level. The coalition is also actively involved in the implementation of a regional environmental education and information resource center.

Mr. Speaker, the objective to Pollution Prevention Week is to prevent pollution through education, cooperation, and voluntary recycling rather than through restrictive government regulations. It can encourage us to work for a cleaner environment while maintaining a competitive, prosperous business climate. These are goals we can all rally around, and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Pollution Prevention Week.

SHOPPING FOR HEALTH CARE SHOULDN'T BE SO HARD

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, we all know the problems that the high cost of health care causes for Americans. What is surprising is how hard it is for a patient/consumer to shop around for the price of a medical procedure.

Shopping for the best price on a standard medical procedure is extremely difficult when one is healthy. It becomes nearly impossible when one is sick. Medicare should lead the way in helping establish pricing information that could help consumer/patients make their health care dollar stretch.

Over the last few weeks, my staff has made calls to various hospitals and doctors' offices to find the cost of an Extracorporeal Shock Wave Lithotripsy (ESWL) procedure. A lithotripsy procedure is one of the best ways to treat kidney stones, one of the more painful types of medical conditions that forces at least 100,000 Americans to require medical attention a year. Lithotripsy, an outpatient procedure which takes about an hour, uses a high energy machine to deliver shock waves to the kidney stone, smashing it to smaller pieces which then gradually pass out of the kidney, and then the body.

The data from these calls about the cost of lithotripsy were eye opening. Not only was the price difference between hospitals and facilities notable, but so was the difficulty in gathering the information, especially the cost of this procedure for Medicare enrollees.

For example, in the Greater Washington area, total cost of lithotripsy varied from approximately \$5,400 at Johns Hopkins USA hospital to approximately \$9,000 at George Washington University Hospital. The following chart lists other hospitals' and doctors' responses to the questions of cost for (1) someone without insurance and (2) someone with Medicare. What was as upsetting as the price differences was the difficulty in finding the cost to Medicare enrollees of this standard procedure. Staff was often told that hospital-using patients would be charged the 20% approved Medicare rate. In fact, patients often pay up to

50% of the Medicare Hospital Outpatient Department (HOPD) approved rate, which is a huge burden to the patient.

Along with the underquoting of a patients' future bill, staff at many hospitals were not able to supply information about what was the approved rate that Medicare would pay, which would make it impossible for patients to plan ahead for their future bill.

Mr. Speaker, Medicare is moving to a Prospective Payment System for Hospital Outpatient Department procedures. Under this new system, over time (unfortunately in many

cases 20–30 years) the patient's share of the total bill will return from today's average of 50–50 to the normal Medicare co-payment of 20%. The establishment of this system will also make it easier for consumers to know what the price for a procedure at a particular institution really is. The calls by my staff show that, if one has a non-emergency medical need, some calling around can save literally thousands of dollars. But this information comparing costs between hospitals and other settings where the procedure can be done (such as an ambulatory surgical center where it is

being proposed to allow lithotripsy to be done) should be more easily available.

I hope that in this age of the Internet and other easier information gathering sources that we will find ways to make this type of basic shopping less of a mystery. Other data will be able to tell us the quality of different providers. Together, this information can help us choose both the quality and the price of the service we seek. This type of information can help reduce some of the outrageous costs of the American health care system and push the overall system toward higher quality.

Name of provider	Approximate cost of facility fees	Approximate doctors cost	Approximate totals
1. Johns Hopkins USA (at Bayview):			
A. Self-Pay	\$2200	\$2100	Procedure \$5300
B. Medicare			Price changed from call made previously—now is \$5400. Medicare would cover 80% so patients pay \$1080. Anesthesia is separate and very hard to determine—'can't answer,' because cost depends on individual procedure.
2. Bethesda, Maryland Urologist Group Practice:			
A. Self-Pay		Initially, office policy to not give price, but then quoted about \$3000.	
B. Medicare		Medicare pays 80% of approved cost	
3. A Maryland Urologist	N/A	\$3500	
4. University of VA Medical Center:			
A. Self-Pay	UVA is State hospital; one can get help/discounts eligible for financial assistance.		Estimate from \$7000 to \$10,000.
B. Medicare	Patient charged 20% of what is approved by Medicare	Said Medicare won't approve all of \$10,000	Was "impossible" for hospital to get this information; patient must talk to Medicare about what is approved.
5. George Washington University Hospital:			
A. Self-Pay			\$9000, 25% discount for payment up front—[25% discount is \$2250, which lowers facility fee to \$6750]. This is a flat fee—paid up front and there should be no additional fees, but doesn't include anesthesia. Anesthesia is approximately \$409 an hour for this procedure. The non-prepaid rate is \$630.
B. Medicare			Was directed to talk to Medicare about what they cover.
6. Georgetown University Medicare Center	Depends on hospital fees. It varies, but assume \$2000 for each half-hour—so assume \$4000–\$5000 for hospital fees.	Fee during procedure is \$3800	Despite repeated calls, could not get in touch with insurance/billing department to find out the cost for Medicare enrollees.
7. Urologic Surgeons of Washington:			
A. Self-Pay	N/A	Doctors cost: \$3482	
B. Medicare		Medicare fee schedule brings down amount so patient ends up paying approximately \$160.	
8. Duke University Medical Center:			
A. Self-Pay	Facility fees are approximately \$6500	Doctors fees are approximately \$2500	
B. Medicare	Hospital accepts what Medicare pays outside of deductible (\$768).	Need to file claim first; then can tell cost of doctors' fee	
9. Midwest Stone Institution (Missouri) ...			Total costs run from \$8000–12,000. Could not find out what Medicare approves.
10. American Kidney Stone Management, Ltd.	Cannot give cost without knowing which hospital is performing operation because there is "great difference between hospital costs."		

TRIBUTE TO CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, It is a great pleasure to congratulate Central Baptist Church in Hobart, Indiana, as it celebrates its 90th anniversary as a parish this Sunday, September 19, 1999. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Reverend Webb, senior pastor, on this glorious occasion.

A church of humble beginnings, Central Baptist Church was established as First Baptist Church in 1909, and celebrated its first service on January 20, 1909, in the home of Mrs. Harriet Cathcart. The parish's first pastor, Reverend George Griffin, having caught a vision while visiting Mrs. Cathcart, helped in the organization of the church. During his six months of service with the church, Reverend Griffin was influential in the purchase of three lots for \$950, which provided a suitable site for the church. After Pastor Griffin left in June 1909, the Indiana State Board (Northern Baptist) sent Reverend J.E. Smith to serve the congregation. The Women's Missionary Board of Indiana lent the church \$5,000 to start con-

structing a building for the new church. Many parishioners contributed time, talent, money, and raw materials to help construct the First Baptist Church. With the help of the parishioners, the first service was held in the new auditorium, which was a basement with dirt floors on December 9, 1909. The furnace was a coke salamander with no stack which regularly filled the room with smoke. In addition to this, the roof leaked when it rained and when the Aetna Powder Company blew up, there were no windows left. Conditions were bleak, but the ministry had survived its first year. Pastor Smith left in June of 1910. Several months passed without a pastor. The church, then made up of 50 members, decided to discontinue services until the Mission Board could send them a new shepherd.

On January 1, 1912, Reverend Wilson was sent to help revitalize the church. With the help of Reverend Wilson the attendance rose from 13 to 128 during the first year of his ministry. Because of the large number of Baptist families arriving to the area, a new building was started in August of 1912 and dedicated in September 23, 1913.

By 1920, the membership had grown to 350 parishioners under the direction of Pastor O.B. Sarber. The church was without a pastor for exactly one year when Pastor William Ayer came to Central Baptist Church in 1927. During Pastor Ayer's tenure with the church, he

started a radio ministry and "The Little Brown Church" was mounted on a Ford and used for street meetings throughout Gary. In 1932, Pastor Ayer left a thriving church with more than 700 members.

Over the years, the church moved from Gary to Portage township due to a shift in population and was led by a variety of pastors. In spite of its many changes, the loyal parishioners continued to grow and prosper. The present facility, including the Sanctuary, was erected in stages. The first stage which included the gym, kitchen, and several classrooms was completed in May 1974 and phase two was completed in October of the same year. Ground was broken in April 1987 and the Hines Sanctuary was dedicated on January 9, 1983.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the parish family of Central Baptist Church, under the guidance of Reverend David Webb, as they prepare to celebrate their 90th anniversary. All past and present parishioners and pastors should be proud of the numerous contributions they have made out of the love and devotion they have displayed for their church throughout the past 90 years.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
MS. ETHEL ROBERSON

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD.

Whereas, the Almighty God has called to her eternal rest, Ms. Ethel Roberson, and

Whereas, Ms. Ethel Roberson, for many years was an active resident of the Austin Community and openly participated in civic, community and political affairs; and

Whereas, Ms. Roberson was mild mannered, easy to interact with and did not often raise her voice, she was nevertheless, strong, effective and not to be taken lightly. Large urban inner city communities are often difficult places to live and have been difficult to save and maintain.

The Austin Community on the Westside of Chicago has been such an area; but today, it is strong, vibrant, struggling, fighting back and holding on because of people like Ms. Roberson.

Ethel, you have been a role model and your quiet spirit and determination shall continue to live on. We love, respect, bless and revere you.

WEST VIRGINIA'S NATIVE
AMERICAN HERITAGE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, West Virginia is not normally known for its Native American population, but former West Virginia State Senator Robert K. Holliday recently wrote a highly informative commentary on this matter in the July 19, 1999, edition of the Fayette Tribune. His article focuses in particular on the local Algonquin families in Fayette County and I submit it to be reprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Fayette Tribune, July 19, 1999]
FAYETTE COUNTY INDIANS KEEPING HERITAGE
ALIVE

(Robert K. Holliday)

About eight Indian tribes (families) are formally organized in West Virginia, and one such family lineage is found in Fayette County. The familial group here was given a certificate officially on May 13, 1997, and was given a certificate of incorporation by Ken Hechler, secretary of state, under the name of Algonquin People.

Each of the family tribes in the state seek to bring about an understanding of Indian culture to the world. They undertake to portray the American Indian lore, musical and narrative, to form a record of the songs and legends of their race. Surely, such civilization of the native American tradition is of great value to the history of human race as well as the history of America.

National and state history books are so wrong to show only the brutal side of war when the Indians look out with reference upon the world of nature, and at all times invocationally to the hours of his or her birth and death, as being sacrosanct. They tell of their life in reverences and in symbol and ceremony. Their art is not the extravagance of daily living but it took centuries to evolve.

As in Judaism, Islam, and Christianity, the Indians always have had but one God. The Hindus may profess one God that is supreme but the sects have 350 million other gods. It is time that the forces of hate in America realize that all the religions and races have codes of high, decent morality.

Let's look a little more closely at the local Algonquin families, headed by a national chief, Stanley Miller of Beckwith, and Cindy Petty, sub-chief, of Oak Hill. In the Fayette-based organization three members come from Ohio, seven from Kentucky, six from North Carolina and eight from Nevada. About 465 are from West Virginia. They have been gathering together about every two months at the Fayette 4-H Camp, Beckwith.

Chief Miller reveals and contends that the Algonquins were here when Moses lived, the Egyptians were building the ancient pyramids and the New River was formed before the Nile River, thus substantiating that in itself exposes another reason why the New River was recognized by U.S. Senator Byrd and others as a national river or even could be established as something greater.

Algonquins believe in one God as the creator of the world, in spirit of their other spiritual angels. They pinpoint good and evil. They feel the U.S. government should do more for the Indians at their reservations, and more importantly in education and promoting their traditional culture.

The Algonquins love America and its Constitution. They do want the government to bring together men and women of all religions and races and strive to end hatred in our blessed land. They deplore the calling of Indians red men or their wives "squaws."

To be a member of the local families' tribe, a person may have as little as 1/16 Indian blood. Some of the tribe colonies are the Shawnee, Fox, Delaware, Sauk, Kickapoo, Miami, Cherokee, Mingo, Mohegan, Seneca and others may be adopted as well.

Even in Fayette I am compelled to know that the Indians were here a long, long time ago. With Gov. W.W. Barron and other archaeologists we went to the mouth of Armstrong Creek in 1963 where it was let out that perhaps about 35,000 B.C.E. that aboriginal people were buried there. It was the site of an Indian village of old. We even bored down into the graves to examine the remains and discover other findings. Around the shoulders on the mountain of Armstrong, much now destroyed by surface mining, are more aptly pointed to as Indian works but most often called "mystery walls" that have run a few miles.

It was of course not the white man that was here first. The date of man's arrival in America is open to discussion, though archaeological evidence from sites suggests many dates before and after 14,000 years ago. Homo sapiens sapiens (fully modern man) were the first to inhabit the Americas during the latter part of the Ice Age. Our real forefathers came over the Bering land bridge that was then formed by ice, and they migrated from Siberia to this land.

In Shawnee: Kechtalinnie.

ENSURING EQUAL EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES FOR VETERANS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to speak in favor of equal employment opportunities for our veterans.

Today, we are in a time of economic growth that our nation has not seen in more than thir-

ty years. With each day that passes, our citizens are reaping the benefits of this growth, but our economic recovery has not benefitted everyone equally. Most Americans agree that every human being has basic rights, including the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The key to having these basic rights is economic opportunity. This includes the opportunity to have a good job that pays a livable wage.

Equal employment opportunity is when an employer treats its job applicants without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, sexual orientation or veteran status.

If economic opportunity is the key to ensuring life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, how do we ensure economic opportunity regardless of veteran status?

The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, the California Department of Veterans Affairs and the Employment Development Department, along with many other local and state agencies, are committed to ensuring that U.S. veterans gain access to equal employment opportunities and affirmative action programs.

A symposium to discuss these opportunities will take place today in San Francisco, California. The topics of this symposium will include federal requirements for employment solicitations, veteran preference in Federal and State employment vs. obligations as a Federal contractor, vocational rehabilitation and/or state rehabilitation, and service-connected disabilities vs. disabilities covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act.

I am confident that the outcome of the topics discussed at this symposium will open economic and employment opportunities for our veterans like never before, so that they too can fully participate in our nation's economic growth.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL H. VINCENT
AND BONNIE WORKMAN FOR
THEIR SERVICE TO DELAWARE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to two outstanding dedicated and caring Delawareans—Mike Vincent, President of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association (DVFA) and Bonnie Workman, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA. On behalf of the citizens of the First State, I would like to honor these two fine individuals for their tireless efforts at the DVFA and the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA.

Family, friends, volunteer firemen, and members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA can now take a moment to truly appreciate the hard work and dedication of these fine individuals during their many years of service. This type of dedication is rare among individuals, and I am happy to rise and commend them for it.

Delaware fire companies are comprised of outstanding, caring and dedicated men and women who unselfishly, day-after-day, year-after-year give their time and talents to help

prevent fires, to battle fires, and to provide emergency medical services for our citizens. In 1999, President Vincent served on the Governor's EMS Improvement Committee and helped pass legislation to facilitate better EMS services for all Delawareans. In addition, President Vincent worked tirelessly for funds to improve training for first response to tragedies caused by weapons of mass destruction. Due to the leadership and commitment of President Vincent and President Workman, Delaware Fire and Emergency services have continued to be a strong and vital part of our community today.

I salute Mike and Bonnie for their truly exemplary record of public and community service and most importantly for their dedication to the cause of DVFA and the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA. Bonnie's efforts to raise funds for the DVFA scholarships have helped countless students reach their academic goals. Finally, Mike's success in raising the volunteer fire fighter and ladies auxiliary tax credit to \$300 will reduce state income tax burdens—the least that can be done for those who risk their lives to protect us. Mike and Bonnie's leadership, teamwork and commitment will find a permanent place in Delaware volunteer fire service history.

Mr. Speaker, this week the gavel will fall opening the DVFA and the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA 1999 Conference to celebrate the anniversaries of their leadership and service to towns and communities throughout Delaware. It is important that this dedicated organization continue to be able to recruit and to retain young men and women who are committed to public service. As Delaware's Representative in Congress, I am proud to have this opportunity to extend my congratulations and best wishes for a successful conference. The support for the DVFA and the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA is strong and the tradition of service is solid. I hope they realize how deeply their efforts are appreciated.

**THE TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
MARCHING BAND RECEIVES THE
NATION'S HIGHEST HONOR FOR
COLLEGIATE MARCHING BANDS**

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Texas Tech University Marching Band. The "Goin' Band from Raiderland" has received the Sudler Intercollegiate Marching Band Trophy, the Nation's highest and most coveted award for college and university marching bands. This award is given annually to a college or university marching band "that has demonstrated particular excellence over a period of many years." It is appropriate to take a moment to acknowledge and celebrate the accomplishments of this distinguished group.

The "Goin' Band" consists of more than 400 members and is led by Mr. Keith Bearden, who is in his 19th year as director. The band was formed the year Texas Tech University opened its doors to students, and this year, the "Goin' Band from Raiderland" celebrates its 75th anniversary. The Sudler Trophy is an honor not only for the current band members but also for the band's alumni in recognition of many years of outstanding performances.

The Texas Tech marching band has received numerous invitations to perform throughout the world. In recent years, the "Goin' Band" has performed during halftime shows for the Dallas Cowboys, the Houston Oilers and the Denver Broncos. In addition, the marching band has performed at the All American, Cotton, Copper, Sun, Alamo, and Independence Bowls and was the lead band at the Battle of Flowers Parade for the Fiesta Celebration in San Antonio. The band has even marched in the inaugural parades of Governor Ann Richards and Governor George W. Bush.

All marching band directors in NCAA schools participated in the selection of the Sudler Trophy award by completing ballots. The ballots were then sent to a committee and the final decision was made during the Midwest Band & Orchestra Clinic in Chicago last December. The presentation of the award will be on Saturday, September 18 in conjunction with Alumni Band Day.

The "Goin' Band from Raiderland" has displayed dedication and commitment to excellence for many years. Through hard work and discipline, the band has accomplished much and is very deserving of this award. I would like to congratulate each member and alumni of the Texas Tech University Marching Band.

**YOUTH FINANCIAL EDUCATION
ACT**

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to join my colleague Representative DREIER in introducing the Youth Financial Education Act. This legislation provides grants to states to carry out youth financial education programs in elementary and secondary schools across the country.

Today's dynamic global economy demands more of our nation's young people than ever before. Children are making important financial decisions even before they enter the workforce. In order to make informed choices regarding personal finances, young people must have the skills, knowledge, and experience needed to manage their money and achieve general financial literacy. Financial education is critical to their ability to provide for their families and save for retirement.

Despite the importance of youth financial education, the average American high school senior lacks even very basic knowledge of personal financial affairs. A nationwide survey conducted in 1997 by the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy examined the knowledge of 1,509 12th graders. On average, survey respondents answered only 57 percent of the questions correctly, and only 5 percent of the respondents received a "C" grade or better. It should come as no surprise, then, that personal bankruptcies are at an all-time high in this country, and the personal savings rate is currently in the negative for the first time in decades.

Mr. Speaker, our legislation would help improve the financial literacy of our youth by authorizing grants to states of at least \$500,000 to carry out financial education programs in elementary and secondary schools. The legisla-

tion does not mandate that state or local education agencies teach personal finance; it merely encourages them to integrate financial education into existing courses, such as economics or mathematics. Most importantly, the bill provides states with the resources necessary to develop teacher training and professional development activities in personal financial education.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Chairman Dreier for his leadership in this effort. I would also like to personally thank Dara Duguay, executive director of the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, for her organization's critical role in the introduction of this legislation. I look forward to working with Jump\$tart and its partners, as well as other member of the education and banking communities, as this legislation moves forward.

Mr. Speaker, all young adults should have the educational tools necessary to make informed financial decisions. This legislation will go a long way towards preparing our young people for their financial future, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

**OPPOSING DELAY IN TAX
BENEFITS TO WORKING POOR**

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, recently a trial balloon involving a delay in earned income tax credit refunds has been floated by the majority party. The balloon needs to be popped immediately so we can move on to more serious solutions.

The earned income tax credit is designed to provide a refund of payroll taxes to the working poor, thereby giving an income supplement as well as an extra work incentive. Under current law, most individuals receive an earned income credit in the form of a refund in May after they file their income taxes. The Republican proposal would single these refunds out to be paid over a 12-month period. This would result in a \$7 billion saving for this fiscal year because about 25 percent of the total refund would be pushed into the next fiscal year. This \$7 billion would then be used, reportedly, to offset spending in the Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill.

Mr. Speaker, I don't think it is fair for Republicans to deny working families a tax refund to pay for a shortfall of funds in an Appropriations Bill. I think there are better ways to find the money than to take refunds away from those who need them the most.

It is not the fault of the working poor that Republicans put together an unrealistic budget resolution this spring, and are now desperate to find some way to implement it. But to lash out against those who need their tax refund the most is unconscionable. We should stick this idea where it belongs, in the trash can, and start to implement a bipartisan budget that will win broad support in the House.

I would also note that given this time in the filing system, it is by no means clear that the changes necessary to delay earned income credit refunds for the working poor can be accomplished without significantly slowing down refunds for all other Americans. The current

system does not distinguish between types of refunds, and it is possible that this proposal will result in all refunds having to be done manually, which will delay refunds for all. This is clearly not the intention, but bad proposals sometimes bring unexpected results and it would be better simply to move on to other solutions to our budget problems.

YOUTH FINANCIAL EDUCATION ACT

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, every day Congress is working to find ways to address our nation's high consumer debt, bankruptcy and low savings rate. A key piece in solving this puzzle is the lack of financial literacy—the ability to manage money—among the majority of our nation's citizens. I believe that educating our nation's youth about personal finance should be a top priority. That is why I am pleased to introduce today the Youth Financial Education Act, which would provide grants to states to support financial education programs in elementary and secondary schools across the country.

Our schools teach reading, writing, history, languages, mathematics, and science, among other subjects. But do we teach our children how to balance a checkbook? Do we instruct them on compounding interest, which allows one to save vast amounts of money over the long term for an education, or retirement, or to buy a home? Do we instruct them in avoiding the credit card trap of easy financing, only to be hit later with high finance charges? Do we train students to understand how to budget their money, and do they realize the relationship of taxes, spending, and investing? Too often, Mr. Speaker, we do not.

Today's dynamic global economy demands more of our nation's young people than ever before. Our young people make financial decisions today that will affect them for years to come. Financial education is critical to their ability to make wise decisions. Our youth must have access to the skills, knowledge and experience needed to manage their personal finances and achieve general financial literacy.

Despite the importance of youth financial education, the average American high school senior lacks basic skills in the management of personal financial affairs. A nationwide survey conducted in 1997 by the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy examined the knowledge of 1,509 12th graders. On average, survey respondents answered only 57 percent of the questions correctly, and only 5 percent of the respondents received a "C" grade or better. It should come as no surprise, then, that personal bankruptcies are at an all-time high in this country, and the personal savings rate at an all-time low.

The Youth Financial Education Act would help improve the financial literacy of our youth by authorizing grants to states of at least \$500,000 to carry out financial education programs in elementary and secondary schools. This legislation does not mandate that state or local education agencies teach personal finance; it merely encourages them to integrate financial education into existing courses, such

as economics and mathematics. Most importantly, the bill provides states with the resources necessary to develop teacher training and professional development activities in personal financial education.

Additionally, I would like to thank Dara Duguay, executive director of the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, for her organization's efforts in the introduction of this legislation. I look forward to working with Jump\$tart and its partners, as well as other members of the education and banking communities, as this legislation moves forward.

Mr. Speaker, we must make available to our nation's youth the tools they need to master the basic financial management skills vital to making informed financial decisions. This legislation provides an opportunity to prepare our young people for their financial future and I urge my colleagues to support it.

RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF BILL AND MILLIE DAVIS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two remarkable individuals, Bill and Millie Davis and to recognize them for achieving an extraordinary milestone—their Golden Wedding Anniversary. I truly wish I were able to join with them as they gather with so many wonderful family and friends in Corte Madera to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Bill and Millie Davis have lived in the Congressional District I am privileged to represent for close to 40 years. Their first date was at the old Rose Bowl in Larkspur, California. And it is no wonder they chose to return and live in this community many years after they were married on September 11, 1949, in Berkeley, California. It is testament to them both that most all of their original wedding party will be on hand in Corte Madera to again celebrate this wonderful occasion 50 years later.

Bill and Millie are now residents of Rohnert Park, California. It seems like just yesterday that we were at their home helping to surprise Bill for his 70th birthday. On June 2, 1992, Millie had the great sense to have a birthday the very same day that I won my first primary election. You can be sure we were celebrating together that night.

Bill and Millie purchased their first home in Walnut Creek, California. Unfortunately, after an unusually wet winter flooded their new home they needed to move to San Francisco. Over the years, Bill and Millie designed and built two beautiful homes, one in Mill Valley, California, the other in Larkspur, California, where they raised their three children, Blake, Grant and Diane. They are also proud new grandparents, of Grace Louise Davis born on January 8, 1999. I had the pleasure of meeting their beautiful granddaughter when she was less than a month old at my home during my annual Chowder feed this year.

Prior to joining the faculty at City College of San Francisco, Bill taught junior high school in Pittsburg, California. He spent roughly 30 years teaching at CCSF, where he also helped to build the art department. Many of

his fellow faculty members and several of his former students are also helping to celebrate this tremendous achievement. Since his retirement, Bill has researched and co-written, Manjiro, a colorful story about the first Japanese person to visit, and later open relations with the United States. He has produced a number of multi-media presentations and video documentaries. Most recently he started, "Gift of a Lifetime" in which he produces special personalized video biographies. Bill is also a real family man and as you see today, managed to capture many of our favorite moments on film.

Millie is truly a special, one-of-a-kind person who is constantly taking care of others. She has been a devoted mother and very involved in her community over the years. Besides volunteering on numerous campaigns, she has been quite involved in the Parent Teachers Association and the American Association of University Women, to name just a few of her activities. After the children were in school she went back to work at the James Irvine Foundation in San Francisco, where she was the Executive Assistant to the President for over a decade.

After 50 years of marriage, Bill and Millie are life-long companions that truly complement each other. They are a wonderful example for others and an inspiration to us all. I would like to congratulate them both again on this truly significant achievement.

CELEBRATING THE REDEDICATION OF EL SEGUNDO MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the rededication of the El Segundo Middle School. Closed for the last twenty years, the school's facilities have been repaired and upgraded and its doors are once again open to students and faculty.

El Segundo Junior High School first opened in 1965, but it closed shortly thereafter due to a decline in enrollment. The school was then leased to the Los Angeles Raiders to serve as a training facility for the professional football franchise.

In recent years the El Segundo community has experienced a significant growth in families and it soon became clear that another middle school was necessary. Through the vision and determination of local educators and parents, the El Segundo Middle School is being rededicated today.

I commend the citizens of El Segundo in recognizing the importance of their children's education and approving the school bond measures necessary for preparing the school for its reopening.

I congratulate the Board of Education, Superintendent Watkins, Assistant Superintendent Smith, and Principal Webb on the re-dedication of El Segundo Middle School. I wish the students of El Segundo much success during their years at El Segundo Middle School.

A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE OF THE
HONORABLE JOHN MORENO**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, as a former Member of the California Legislature, it is with particular sadness that I offer this Memorial Tribute to a pioneering colleague, the Honorable John Moreno, late a retired Member of the Assembly, 51st District from 1962–1964.

Assemblyman John Moreno was one of the first Latinos elected to the California Legislature in the 20th Century. A native son of Los Angeles, California, he won election in 1962 from what was then the 51st Assembly District, encompassing parts of East Los Angeles, Santa Fe Springs, Pico Rivera and Montebello. These same communities that I now proudly represent in my 34th Congressional District, were very honorably and well represented by my distinguished predecessor during a time of historic growth and achievement in the State of California.

One of Assemblyman Moreno's major accomplishments in office was winning passage of a bond issue to build Rio Hondo Community College in the 1960's after three earlier bond measures had failed. He also helped the college district avert bankruptcy through legislation that allowed it to prolong a tax override and complete construction of the campus in 1966.

Assemblyman Moreno demonstrated leadership on a host of important legislation including civil rights, aid to the aged and support for farm workers. He served on the state Compensatory Education Commission and co-authored a bill that funded special programs for disadvantaged students, including youths from migrant families and those who were learning English.

John Moreno began his political career as a member of the first City Council of the City of Santa Fe Springs, California. He was a driving force behind city incorporation in 1957 and later served as Mayor. Before entering the Assembly, he taught elementary and high school for 11 years in Pico Rivera, Whittier and Los Angeles. He served in the Navy during the closing months of World War II, then attended the University of Southern California, earning a Bachelors degree in 1951. After leaving the Legislature, he moved to Washington, D.C., where he taught school and opened a home improvement business. He later moved to New York City and ran his business there until retirement in 1992.

The Honorable John Moreno was one of just a few remarkable minority candidates to break through the heavy obstacles of institutional racism during an era when legislative districts were routinely gerrymandered to prevent Mexican-Americans and other minorities from holding elective office. He and his few Latino colleagues paved the way for future generations of Latino elected leaders, including myself, where today the Latino Legislative Caucus in the California Legislature numbers 7 state Senators and sixteen Members of the Assembly, including the past two consecutive Speakers of the Assembly.

John Moreno passed away August 19, 1999 at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. He was

72 years of age. He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Judith Anderson, four daughters and two sons from a previous marriage, and two sisters.

Mr. Speaker, I join with his many friends and admirers, former constituents and the cities and communities of his Southeast Los Angeles County district in mourning his loss and paying tribute to his many outstanding accomplishments and dedicated service to others.

IN HONOR OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE FOREST CITY
PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Forest City Park Civic Association of Cleveland, Ohio on its 60th charter anniversary. The Civic Association marked its anniversary with a celebration on August 10, 1999.

The Civic Association dates back to May 11, 1939 when it was first chartered by the state of Ohio as a non-profit, non-political organization. It was the first group in southeast Cleveland to set up a vigorous Neighborhood Improvement Program which served to catalyze similar programs in other communities.

The Forest City Park Civic Association has also pioneered many other activities during its 60 years of existence. They have been involved in a Green Up campaign to plant trees and shrubs throughout the community along with civic participation in pollution control and abatement. Other activities of the Civic Association entail garden tours, picnics and street parties for the community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the members of the Forest City Park Civic Association on their anniversary and salute them for sixty years of civic service and continuing their dedication to the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ST. HELENA HOSPITAL'S FIRST OPEN HEART
SURGERY**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Helena Hospital as it celebrates its 25th anniversary of the first open heart surgery in the hospital's Cardiac Center. Located in my hometown of St. Helena in the Napa Valley, St. Helena Hospital is one of the country's premier medical facilities. But I don't say that just because this is the hospital where my mother, my father, one of my sons and I were born and where my wife, Janet, worked as a nurse in the Intensive Care Unit.

The St. Helena Hospital has an outstanding cardiac care facility. It began in May of 1974, when Wilfred Tam, M.D. performed the North Bay's first open-heart surgery at St. Helena Hospital. This made St. Helena Hospital one of the first community hospitals to perform the

procedure. The surgery was just one in a series of firsts in the region for the hospital's Cardiac Center, which opened in 1972. Today, St. Helena Hospital's Cardiac surgery team has more than 68 years of combined surgical experience and has performed more than 15,000 open-heart surgeries.

Recognized as a pioneer and a leader in cardiac care, St. Helena Hospital has continued its tradition of high-tech innovation. In 1997, it was the nation's first hospital to purchase the Medtronic Octopus, a device that immobilizes the beating heart during minimally invasive bypass surgery.

Installed in 1993, St. Helena Hospital's digital by-plane cardiovascular catheterization suite was the first of its kind in the United States. Work is scheduled to begin this year to upgrade the hospital's other suite with new, state-of-the-art equipment.

To celebrate its quarter-century of excellence in cardiac care, St. Helena Hospital is hosting a community celebration on September 26, 1999 honoring the physicians and staff who make the Cardiac Center a leader in heart health, and also honoring the "Mended Hearts" for whom they have cared over the years.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge and honor the St. Helena Hospital Cardiac Center for its outstanding Cardiac Center and for its tremendous twenty-five year commitment to providing the very best in quality health care.

DRUG INTERDICTION OR DRUG
SMUGGLING?**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend to you the attached article from earlier this summer written by Mr. Frank Calzon, entitled "Behind Castro: Money laundering, drug smuggling." Mr. Calzon is the executive director of the Center for a Free Cuba in Washington, D.C. and is a tireless fighter for democratic causes. I encourage my colleagues to learn from his insightful article.

BEHIND CASTRO: MONEY LAUNDERING, DRUG
SMUGGLING

State Department and Coast Guard officials last week flew to Havana seeking "to improve U.S.-Cuban cooperation on drug interdiction."

If the Clinton administration would look to history, it would have known that it was a vain mission and would set about probing instead the relationship between Colombia's drug trade and the guerrilla movements over which Fidel Castro exercises inordinate influence.

Havana complains that it lacks resources to combat drug trafficking. But, even if one accepts this at face value, it is unclear how the United States should respond. Should we provide resources to the Cuban Ministry of the Interior—Havana's KGB-Gestapo? Do it while holding in federal custody Cuban spies charged with gathering information about military bases in Florida and linked to the shootdown of the Brothers to the Rescue pilots?

Havana has managed to purchase state-of-the-art radio-jamming equipment and foot the bill for thousands of foreigners to visit

the island and condemn the U.S. embargo. Could it be that inadequate funding for drug interdiction is simply the result of Castro's misguided priorities?

In 1982 a federal grand jury indicted four high-ranking Cuba government officials, including a vice admiral of the Cuban navy and a former Cuban ambassador to Colombia. They were charged with facilitating the smuggling of drugs into the United States.

In 1983 then-President Ronald Reagan said that there was "strong evidence" of drug smuggling by high-level Cuban government officials. And in 1989 Castro executed several Ministry of the Interior officials and Cuba's most decorated army officer, Gen. Arnaldo Ochoa, allegedly involved in the drug trade. Castro did so after years of suggesting that U.S. accusations of drug smuggling were lies "concocted by the CIA." He has never explained how widespread Cuba's involvement with narcotrafficking was then or how a military and national hero such as Ochoa, with no oversight over Cuba's harbors or airspace, could have been involved.

Then there is the mystery of how several hundred million dollars appeared in the coffers of Cuba's National Bank. Castro's American supporters assert that \$800 million is sent by the Cuban-American community every year to relatives. However, given the relatively small number of Cuban-American households who still have relatives in Cuba, it is mathematically impossible for that community to generate such funds. The amount is approximately equivalent to the income Cubans derived in 1997-98 from its main export: sugar. Money laundering and drug smuggling are the logical sources of this mysterious income.

It should be noted that, despite major narcotics charges brought against Ochoa and the other Interior Ministry officers, no accounting was ever presented of what should have been multimillion-dollar payoffs.

Claims of Castro's cooperation with U.S. anti-narcotics efforts are a rerun of the Noriega saga. Panamanian strongman Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega currently is serving a long, federal sentence for his role in the drug trade. He had extensive ties to the Cuban dictator. Evidence was presented at his trial that Castro once mediated a dispute between Noriega and the Medellin drug cartel.

Nevertheless, Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey, the Clinton administration's drug czar, recently said that there is "no conclusive evidence to indicate that the Cuban leadership is currently involved in this criminal activity." The general seems to be unaware of a report released by his own office in March, titled "1998 Annual Assessment of Cocaine Movement." It states: "Noncommercial air movements from Colombia to the Bahamas were most prolific in 1998. Most flights fly either east or west of Jamaica, and subsequently fly over Cuban land mass." It adds that the cocaine flown over Cuban territory is dropped "in or near Cuban territorial waters."

Given Castro's sensitivity concerning unidentified aircraft flying over Cuba, as evidenced by the Brothers to the Rescue shootdown, it is inexplicable that not one drug-smuggling airplane has ever been shot down over the island.

There are those who believe that the Cuban leopard has changed his spots. Maybe. But the consequences of taking Castro at his word can be tragic. The impact of the drug epidemic on America's youth is far too important to allow the facts linking Castro to the drug trade to be swept under the rug.

BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 417) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform the financing of campaigns for elections for Federal office, and for other purposes:

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Shays-Meehan Campaign Finance Reform Act and urge my colleagues to vote against all "poison pill" amendments that will be offered today. I am proud to cosponsor this bipartisan legislation, which represents the best, real opportunity to reform our broken campaign finance system.

The issue of campaign finance reform cuts to the essence of democracy. Our unique American political system will not survive without the participation of the average American citizen. Unfortunately, more and more Americans are dropping out—with each election, fewer Americans are voting. They are doing so because they no longer believe that their vote matters. As they see more and more money pouring into campaigns, they believe that their voice is being drowned out by wealthy special interests.

Despite the cynicism of the American public, Congress has failed to enact significant campaign finance reform legislation since 1974. In that year, in the wake of the Watergate Scandal, Congress imposed tough spending limits on direct, "hard money" contributions to candidates. Unfortunately, no one at that time foresaw how two loopholes in the law would lead to a gross corruption of our political system.

The first loophole is "soft" money—the unregulated and unlimited contributions to the political parties from corporations, labor unions, or wealthy individuals. "Soft" money allows wealthy special interests to skirt around "hard" money limits and dump unlimited sums of money into a campaign.

During the 1996 election cycle, approximately 30 percent of all large federal contributions came in the form of soft money to political parties. Both parties raised soft money at a 75 percent higher rate than four years ago. For the 2000 elections, it is estimated that soft money spending will exceed \$500 million—more than double the total for the 1996 elections.

Soft money is used to finance the second loophole in campaign finance law: sham issue advertisements. This loophole allows special interests to spend huge sums of money on campaign ads advocating either the defeat or election of a candidate. As long as these ads do not use the magic words "vote for" or "vote against" they are deemed "issue advocacy" under current law and therefore not subject to campaign spending limits or disclosure requirements.

During the 1996 elections, the television and radio airwaves were flooded with these sham issue ads—many of which were negative attack ads. Americans who see or here these ads have no idea who pays for them because

no disclosure is required. They drown out the voice of the average American citizen, and even sometimes of the candidates themselves. Without reform, we can certain expect a huge increase in these sham issue ads.

The Shays-Meehan bill begins to restore public confidence in our electoral system by closing these two egregious loopholes. The bill bans all contributions of soft money to federal campaigns. Specifically, it bans national party committees from soliciting, receiving, directing or spending soft money. The bill also prohibits state and local parties from spending soft money on federal election activity.

In an effort to ban campaign advertisements that masquerade as "issue advocacy," Shays-Meehan tightens the definition of "express advocacy" communications. Under the bill, any ad that is clearly designed to influence an election is deemed "express advocacy" and must therefore abide by federal contribution and expenditure limits and disclosure requirements. Shays-Meehan includes well crafted language that specifically exempts legitimate voter guides from the definition of "express advocacy."

The Shays-Meehan bill would not prevent public organizations from running advertisements, but it would ensure that ads clearly designed to influence an election are regulated under federal law. We have laws clearly designed to regulate and disclose campaign donations and expenditures, and no one should be allowed to evade them. Shays-Meehan would ensure that everyone involved in influencing elections plays by the same rules.

Opponents have argued that the Shays-Meehan bill undermines the First Amendment right of free speech. However, the Supreme Court has ruled that Congress has a broad ability to protect the political process from corruption and the appearance of corruption. It has upheld as constitutional the ability to limit contributions by individuals and political committees to candidates. The Supreme Court has also clearly permitted Congress to distinguish between issue advocacy on the one hand, and electioneering or "express advocacy" on the other.

The Meehan-Shays proposal will not cure our campaign finance system of all its evils—and I certainly support more far reaching restrictions on campaign contributions and expenditures. However, the bill will take a modest but significant first step toward restoring integrity in our political system. It will limit the influence of wealthy special interests and help to restore the voice of average American citizens in our political process. In short, enactment of this legislation is essential to the survival of American democracy.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT ON H.R. 2756, "FAIR COMPETITION IN TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING ACT OF 1999"

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in August I introduced H.R. 2756, the "Fair Competition in Tax-Exempt Financing Act of 1999", which has been referred to the Ways and Means Committee. As a general proposition I believe

that governments should be cautious in their use of tax-exempt financing, particularly when it is used to provide services that can be obtained through the private sector.

Since I introduced the bill, I have learned that it may raise significant issues that could affect the tax-exempt bonds of municipal electric systems. It was certainly not my intent to do anything that would affect the ongoing debate on the private use restrictions on these tax-exempt bonds.

As the Ranking Minority Member of the Energy and Power Subcommittee of the Commerce Committee, which has electric restructuring legislation pending before it, I believe it is prudent that I remain neutral on this issue. In fact I have encouraged the investor-owned utilities and public power systems to reach an agreement on private use and offer it to the Congress as a solution to this important restructuring issue.

Mr. Speaker, in order to make my intentions completely clear, were I permitted to withdraw the bill, I would do so. However, the custom in the House is not to permit bills to be withdrawn. As a result of the information I have received and the concerns that have been expressed since the introduction of the bill, I have decided not to seek further action on this legislation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARILYN PRICE BIRNHAK AND J. ROBERT BIRNHAK ON 35 YEARS OF SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP TO THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITY

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, my heartfelt congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. Robert Birnhak for being honored at the 35th anniversary celebration of Weight Watchers of Philadelphia on Saturday, September 18, 1999. Marilyn Price Birnhak along with the support of her husband J. Robert Birnhak founded Weight Watchers of Philadelphia thirty-five years ago. As founder and first president, she watched her group of eight members grow to roughly 20,000 members over the years, meeting in towns throughout the southeastern Pennsylvania and southwestern New Jersey areas.

Mr. and Mrs. Birnhak have also instilled in their children a sense of leadership, as their son John currently serves as the company's vice president of finance and their daughter Tracey is vice president of marketing and business development. All of their children are active in their communities.

The Birnhak family has contributed to Weight Watchers' tremendous growth in the Philadelphia area, as well as in the broader reaches of the franchise. Mr. Birnhak served as a past president of the Weight Watchers Franchise Association, and Mrs. Birnhak served first as vice president and then as president of the association.

In addition to their commitment to Weight Watchers, the Birnhaks have been leaders in the larger community as well. Mr. Birnhak has been active on the board of the Philadelphia Geriatric Center and Congregation Beth Sho-

lom in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania. Both he and Mrs. Birnhak have been honored by the State of Israel Bonds, Jewish Theological Seminary and Ben Gurion University in Israel. Mrs. Birnhak is also on the board of directors of the Philadelphia Theatre Company.

Mrs. Birnhak has contributed significantly to numerous health panels, seminars and health fairs. She has lectured at medical colleges and universities and appeared on radio and television talk shows.

Through Weight Watchers the Birnhaks have participated in a myriad of charitable endeavors for the United Way, the American Heart Association, the March of Dimes, the Alzheimer's Association, the Hero Scholarship Fund, Weight Watchers of Philadelphia, Inc. Feeds the Hungry, the Kidney Foundation, among others. In particular, Weight Watchers of Philadelphia, Inc. is to be commended for being the single largest contributor to the Philadelphia Hero Scholarship Fund.

Once again, my congratulations to a wonderful couple and their family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, because I was unavoidably detained, I was absent for the vote on the Bereuter/Wicker amendment to H.R. 417. This amendment would prohibit campaign contributions to federal candidates from any individual other than a U.S. citizen or national. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of the Bereuter amendment in part because it would have been consistent with my record. On July 14, 1998, I voted for a similar amendment offered by Representative VITO FOSSELLA (vote #276 of the Second Session of the 105th Congress) during last year's debate on campaign finance reform.

THOMAS PUGH HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a noted community leader, Mr. Thomas E. Pugh, as he is honored by the Ethics Institute of Northeastern Pennsylvania at their annual dinner. I am pleased to have been asked to join in this event.

A former CEO of the John Heinz Institute of Rehabilitation in Wilkes-Barre, Tom Pugh now works at Allied Services in Scranton. He began there as director of communications and served later as vice president of corporate services better assuming his current role as vice-president of rehabilitation.

Tom is a dedicated professional who is active on both the local and international scene. Since 1994, Tom has worked with the Litewska Children's Hospital in Warsaw, Poland as a consultant on hospital privatization and foundation formation. He conducts a corporate program that provides equipment to the Association of Disabled People of Lithuania. Tom also serves as a consultant to Trnava

University Healthcare Management Education Project in the Slovakia Republic. Locally, Tom is active in the Arthritis Foundation, the James S. Brady Center, the Northeast Region Board of the Health Education Center, and the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute. He serves as Executive Vice-President of the Board of Pennsylvania Association of Rehabilitation Facilities.

Mr. Speaker, Tom Pugh is a dedicated professional and community leader. His commitment to improving the lives of the disabled both here and abroad is well known. The Ethics Institute of Northeastern Pennsylvania, which was established to increase the understanding of contemporary ethical issues in business, government, politics, health care and social issues, is wise to fete him. I send my sincere best wishes to Tom as he accepts this prestigious award.

TRIBUTE TO THE LUTKE FAMILY

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lutke family of Marion, Michigan, whose farm was recently designated a Centennial Farm by Secretary of State Candice Miller and the Michigan Historical Commission.

This honor is bestowed on farms that have remained in the same family for 100 years or more. The Lutke farm was established in 1873. Today Harvey and Ruth Lutke harvest 280 acres of hay and corn.

The Centennial Farm designation recognizes the rich agricultural heritage of our great state. It pays tribute to the generations of families who have fed the world and passed on their legacy of hard work and determination to their children.

The Lutke family's success is a source of pride to Missaukee County, to Michigan, and our nation. I am pleased to have the opportunity to honor them today in the U.S. House of Representatives and I wish them many more generations of bounty.

GROWING DIGITAL DIVIDE

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. LARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to draw attention to our nation's growing digital divide. The nation's economy is surging to unprecedented levels. The productivity of small business start-ups, driven by technology and American ingenuity, is bursting with entrepreneurial capital and the creation of unparalleled wealth.

Yet amidst the euphoria, there is growing concern about the alarming trend of limited access to the benefits of this "digit" economy.

In its July report, "Falling Through The Net," the Department of Commerce confirmed these fears about the information "haves" and "have nots" citing a persisting "digital divide" between the information rich and the information poor. A divide characterized by a disparity of race, gender, wealth and geography that grows disturbingly further apart.

The great irony of this technology enterprise is that it's running out of a vital fuel source: skilled workers. American corporations are now in the position of asking Congress to help import a workforce from foreign countries.

Congress needs to reinforce a crucial pipeline for this needed fuel so that our technological enterprises can feel secure in their ability to grow. That pipeline has been and continues to be public education. Unfortunately, the pipeline is clogged because our policies are floundering with piecemeal, patch-worked solutions instead of a solidly constructed plan. We cannot meet the demands of a digital economy, with inadequate infrastructure, untrained teachers, resistant universities, indecisive government, and a private sector that thinks donating its old computers is the solution to the problem.

Congress must recognize a fundamental need to rethink how we deliver education in our classrooms. It needs to light up the desktops of our students and the blackboards of their teachers, and provide students with the training and skills they need to be contributing members of our future workforce. Specifically, it needs to bring the information superhighway into our schools and libraries, giving students the opportunity to participate in the global economy.

In order for this opportunity to be seized by Congress, it will take more than a thirty second sound bite. It will require a long term plan.

Congress must forge a new alliance of the nation's talented technological sector and leading academic and government agencies, to develop a strategic plan with appropriate implementation benchmarks. The information infrastructure needed for classrooms and public libraries must be examined to ensure that it provides the most efficient and cost effective results. Yet, we must also realize that while a high-tech education system is critical, it won't work without trained professionals.

As a parent of three and a former teacher, I understand that no act of Congress ever reads to a child at night, tucks him in, or offers him the kind of nurturing growth that comes from caring parents. Similarly, no piece of technology can replace a highly trained teacher. There can be no high tech, without high touch.

According to U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley, over the next 10 years, this country will need two million new teachers. These new teachers must be digitally fluent and prepared to integrate technology into their daily lesson plans and curriculum. Our colleges and universities must be prepared to provide this outcome, and Congress must be prepared to provide incentives. These incentives would include tax credits for equipment purchases, tuition credits to acquire new skills, and incentives for business to buddy with teachers and adopt schools.

The third component of how Congress can integrate high-tech learning into our society, relates to creating a civic culture that will encourage young people with computer talent to share their knowledge with their community. The best way to make that happen will be through a youth technology corps.

A national tech corps starting in the fifth grade and continuing through high school, this youth technology corps will be of technological service to its peers and adults, and expose young people to the importance of community service. Learning the important lesson that serving is as important as being served.

Congress has a responsibility to leave no one behind in the digital economy. It must provide the opportunities needed to help Americans attain personal and financial security in a global economy. It can make this happen, or it can be remembered as the Congress that squandered an unprecedented educational moment.

HONORING REVEREND AMOS G. JOHNSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise before you today on behalf of the congregation of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Pontiac, Michigan. On Friday, September 17, the New Bethel family will gather to honor Reverend Amos G. Johnson for 42 years of dedicated service to the community in the name of the Lord.

Born in Mississippi, Reverend Amos Johnson was heavily influenced by his mother, whom he helped around the house as a young man, and his father, the Reverend Robert Johnson. In 1944, Mr. Johnson was called up to serve his country in the United States Army. It was there that he received his calling. The following year, Reverend Johnson enrolled in American Baptist Theological Seminary, receiving his theology degree as well as a Bachelor of Arts degree from Jackson State College.

In 1957, Reverend Johnson left Mississippi for Michigan, and weeks later became the head of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church. In those 42 years, the New Bethel congregation has grown from 50 to nearly 2,000 under Pastor Johnson's leadership. The church has moved from their original building to a beautiful new facility directly across the street. The original church still remains, in its new role as the New Bethel Outreach Ministry-Shelter for the homeless, servicing 161 families and 288 children.

Reverend Johnson's time with the ministry has allowed him to develop a strong support network that extends outside the church. The pastor has been affiliated with and has held leadership positions in groups such as the Greater Pontiac District Association, Wolverine State Congress, Oakland County Ministerial Fellowship, and the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, to name a few. He has also been honored with an honorary degree from the Urban Bible Institute in Detroit.

Reverend Johnson's deeds in the name of the Lord are as remarkable as his deeds on behalf of God's children in the Pontiac community. In addition to the Outreach Center, he has served as chaplain at North Oakland Medical Center in Pontiac, and has worked tirelessly to aid those struggling with substance abuse. Counting strong relationships with young people as a major accomplishment, Reverend Johnson can often be found working with students and teachers in the Pontiac School District. Many public officials can be found seeking Reverend Johnson's guidance on pressing matters and issues.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my fellow Members of the 106th Congress to join me in saluting Reverend Amos

Johnson. I also ask that you acknowledge the contributions made by Marjorie, his wonderful wife of 49 years, who has been with him every step of the way, as well as their two children. Self evident is their lifelong commitment to enhancing the dignity and nurturing the spirits of all people. Our community is a much better place because of the Johnsons.

SAN YSIDRO HEALTH CENTER—
HONORING THE PAST, LOOKING
TOWARD THE FUTURE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the San Ysidro Health Center and the 30 years it has been contributing to the health of my community. From humble beginnings as a volunteer grassroots program run out of a house on the property where the present 50,000-square foot medical center now operates, the center has grown with satellite clinics in Chula Vista and National City. It serves 37,000 people now and has a budget of \$17 million.

Mr. Speaker, today is a day for looking back and honoring the pioneers who started this amazing caring center and the visionaries who use this firm foundation to provide even greater services to the people of the South Bay area of San Diego County.

Thirty years ago, Elena Savala and 10 other members of the Club de las Madres decided they needed more than one doctor to serve the 700 residents of San Ysidro at that time. Although they spoke little English and had little formal education, they approached the University of California at San Diego for assistance. In a little house that the City of San Diego donated, volunteer health care professionals began to offer services for the nominal fee of \$1.

The eleven women formed the center's first Board of Directors. In 1972 they hired another forward-thinking and committed health care warrior, Gabriel Arce, to direct the center. Under his leadership, the health center moved from a small trailer to the original clinic, a modern building with six examining rooms. The center continued to grow and in 1980 made an historic leap—it created the Community Health Group, the only health maintenance organization (HMO) in the State of California with an all MediCal (Medicaid) caseload.

Today, the San Ysidro Health Center provides primary care, dental care, social services, nutrition counseling, laboratory services and a pharmacy. Beyond its three primary health care clinics in San Ysidro, Chula Vista and National City, its mental health component, the Behavioral Health Group, operates an extensive countywide mental health network that treats children, adolescents and adults in the communities of San Ysidro, Chula Vista, San Diego, Santee and San Marcos.

Of the center's 37,000 patients, 70 percent live at or below the poverty level, 77 percent are women, 30 percent are children under the age of 12 and 60 percent are on MediCal, Medicare or receive County Medical Services.

The grassroots flavor of the center remains alive—many patients later come to work for

the center, inspired to pursue health-related careers by the care they see offered there.

That inspiration promises to continue. The current forward-looking Board of Directors, lead by President Macario Gutierrez, has involved the center in a partnership with Scripps Family Practice Residency Program. The residency program will be offered at the Chula Vista Family Clinic, one of the two satellite clinics. It is all of our hope that some of the San Ysidro Health Center's patients of today will become the doctors of tomorrow, inspired by the access to and commitment of this unique residency program.

This partnership is born out of the California Area Health Education Center Program. This program was established in 1972 to form partnerships between California's schools of medicine and local organizations throughout the state. The program established a special border outreach unit. The partnership with the San Ysidro Health Center allows the program to continue and expand its opportunities to emphasize care for our Latino population and the special demands of health care along the border. The program trains doctors to work in areas which do not have adequate health care coverage.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you join with me in honoring the vision, and quality health care that San Ysidro Health Center has offered over the past 30 years and that I am sure they will offer for the next 30 years with their special partners. The center's unique blend of commitment to our community and involvement of residents in providing the highest quality health care deserves to be emulated nationwide.

LATINA ACTION DAY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, on September 15, 1999, Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) will host Latina Action Day in Washington, D.C. It is with great pleasure and pride that I commend them for their commitment to Latinas.

Since its founding in 1989, HOPE has remained dedicated to improving the educational, political and economic status of Latinas. HOPE has anchored itself by the principle that knowledge of the political process coupled with active participation will guarantee a more representative, democratic government.

HOPE, through its Latina Action Day in Washington, D.C., rallies several national community, business, and women's organizations to our nation's capitol for indepth dialogues and analysis of current issues impacting the community at large. September 15, 1999, marks the second year that Latina Action Day will be held in Washington, D.C. and continues to be an annual event that brings together hundreds of women for the purpose of educating and empowering Latinas in all phases of economic, cultural, and social structures.

As Latinas assume more leadership positions nationally, it becomes increasingly important to have firsthand knowledge of legislative issues and to participate in the political process.

I salute HOPE for recognizing the value in an educated citizenry and wish the continued success in forwarding their mission.

GROUNDBREAKING CELEBRATION FOR THE JOHN W. KING SENIOR COMMUNITY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on September 16th, a wonderful event is taking place as we celebrate the groundbreaking on the John W. King Senior Community. Another wonderful event is taking place at the same time with the celebration of the 80th birthday of this important project's founder, inspiration, and guiding light—John W. King. It is appropriate for us to celebrate both of these events at the same time, because this groundbreaking is the culmination of Mr. King's vision and determination. Without him, this project would simply not exist.

John King's contributions to the quality of life in San Francisco are too numerous to list. Mr. King has worked tirelessly as an advocate for San Francisco's seniors, to ensure that they have access to affordable housing and services. The John W. King Senior Community is the latest addition to John's lifelong work. This innovative project will provide 91 one-bedroom apartments to serve low-income seniors in the City's Visitacion Valley. It will provide easy access to on-site support services, a transportation center and a nutrition center. The project also includes a child-care center, which helps to meet community needs and will provide opportunities for the senior residents to develop relationships with the youngest generation.

We can all be proud of the role of the federal government, particularly the Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the role of the City of San Francisco, and Catholic Healthcare West, in helping to finance the John W. King Senior Community, which is a joint project of the John W. King Senior Center, Mercy Charities Housing California, and Housing Conservation & Development Corporation.

We can be particularly proud of John King, whose vision, strength, determination and hard work are examples for us all. Happy Birthday, Mr. King. May you continue your good works for the next eighty years.

TRIBUTE TO EARLINE MCCLAIN

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Earline McClain, one of my constituents who has had a very distinguished career in education, has written a poem that I hope will be read by a great many people. It expresses some very important ideas about our Nation and how each of us has a responsibility to treat each other with respect and humility.

I have enclosed a copy of the poem, entitled "Think," and would like to call it to the atten-

tion of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

THINK

Take a look at yourself. What's made you so bereft Of human concern? Why have you not learned That all people have worth and no one on this earth Has the right to heap scorn on any person ever born!

Label them as you may; call them black, trash, foreign, migrant or gay You have no right to say they are inferior, to feel superior; You are human, and so are they!

What's a migrant worker? Surely not a shirker But strangers in this land, doing all that they can To eke out a living. Others should be giving All that they can afford. Things are not ours to hoard!

Never should one deny others the chance to try To better their condition. When you are in a position to offer a helping hand, When you're called American, you must fully understand What makes up this "free" land. America's a melting pot And if you heat it up too hot, so anyone is scorched or burned, A painful lesson you'll learn, all people are God's concern!

When you don't give, but hoard, think of one born in a manger When your neighbor's ox is gored, your ass is in danger! You are your brothers' keeper and involved with him much deeper Than you may want to be. When another's plight you see,

Think: But for God's grace, that's me or His Grace may yet let me be, For He controls our destiny and how I treat others, He may treat me.

KENTUCKY SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the efforts of the 4,279 women of the Kentucky Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The Kentucky organization was founded 104 years ago to serve as an instrument of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and to further the DAR's dedication to the promotion of education among our nation's citizens, preservation of our historical treasures, and encouragement and recognition of patriotic endeavors among citizens of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, the State Board of Management of the Kentucky Society will meet in my hometown of Hopkinsville, Kentucky on Saturday September 18, 1999. This meeting will honor in remembrance the life and the Bicentennial of the death of our nation's Founding Father and First President, George Washington.

The Kentucky Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution provides innumerable patriotic services, including but not limited to caring for our veterans; providing citizenship manuals to prospective U.S. citizens; the creation of a DAR-supported school in Hindman, Kentucky to teach Dyslexic students to read and write; and the recognition of students in

our Commonwealth's schools who have demonstrated good citizenship and service to country.

Mr. Speaker, Constitution Week, September 13–17 marks the Two Hundred Twelfth Anniversary of the signing of the Constitution.

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Kentucky Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution promote vigilance among all U.S. citizens to understand and protect the freedoms guaranteed to them by the Constitution. They deserve our respect and our gratitude for their efforts and I offer this statement in recognition of their superb and continuing patriotism.

BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 417) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform the financing of campaigns for elections for Federal office, and for other purposes:

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, during the 1996 election cycle a Virginia-based organization called Triad Management spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in my home state of Kansas, as well as in Oklahoma and Louisiana, among other states. The money was spent on sham issue ads of dubious accuracy. I am including in the RECORD with my statement a copy of a New York Times article that recounts Triad's activities in this regard.

Rigorous debate is part of democracy in America, and free speech is a right and freedom that all of us cherish. When you and I stand up to exercise that right, not only to conduct the business of the people but also to run in partisan elections, we show our face. But there are those who enter the public debate anonymously, however, backed by funds, the source of which is unknown.

Mr. Chairman, this type of activity has two effects on American voters. The first is to cause outrage—and rightly so. After all, how can one expect justice and fair play from a system that has the appearance of being up for sale?

The second is apathy. Sadly, we know this to be true based upon recent voter turnout statistics. Average voters feel like they can't make a difference in our system of big bucks and anonymous contributions, and their response is to refuse to participate.

Mr. Chairman, you and I have both seen this outrage and apathy. Isn't it time we do something about it?

Triad is one of the many examples of this abuse of the system; abuses enactment of Shays-Meehan will end. By passing this bill, no one is telling the anonymous donors to Triad that they can't be a part of the public debate. Instead, it simply requires them to reveal themselves to the public and show their face, just like everyone else has to do.

Mr. Chairman, passing H.R. 417 is the one step Congress can take that will most contribute to restoring the public's loss of con-

fidence in our political process. People have an absolute right to know who is trying to influence their vote and the vote of their elected representatives.

I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 417 immediately so we can shine the light of day on this problem.

[From the New York Times]

A BACK DOOR FOR THE CONSERVATIVE DONOR
CONSULTANT USED PAC'S AND NONPROFITS TO
OFFER MAXIMUM IMPACT

(By Leslie Wayne)

WASHINGTON, May 21—When Floyd Coates, an Indiana businessman and one-time candidate for Congress, decided to make some big campaign donations in the last election, he wanted to be sure that the \$100,000 or so he planned to give would end up supporting his brand of conservative, free-market, pro-military, anti-abortion candidates.

"I wanted to do all I could," Mr. Coates said. "But I didn't want my money to go to the 5 to 10 percent of the Republican candidates who were too liberal, or to the 5 to 10 percent who didn't have a chance."

So, for guidance, Mr. Coates turned to Triad Management Services, a Washington political consulting concern headed by a former fund-raiser for Oliver L. North. Tapping into a network of conservative donors across the country, Triad funneled their money through nonprofit groups and political action committees to support conservative candidates in important races. By finding donors and advising them where to put their money, Triad pumped more than \$5 million into last-minute negative television, advertisements that benefited Republican candidates and, in some cases, swayed elections.

A Democratic candidate for Congress in Kansas was described in an advertisement produced by Triad with money from conservative donors as supporting "special preferences for gays and lesbians." She lost. A Democratic Congressional candidate in Montana lost his slim lead, and the election, after a Triad advertisement portrayed him as a wife-beater.

In the hotly contested race for Bob Dole's Senate seat in Kansas, the Democratic challenger, who had been running neck-and-neck, lost after a last-minute \$200,000 advertising blitz from Triad characterized her as a "liberal" from Massachusetts, the state she left 20 years ago.

Few people, least of all the Congressional candidates under attack, knew where the money for these advertisements came from: a little-known group taking advantage of loopholes in campaign finance laws on behalf of Republican candidates.

"Triad played the role of an orchestra leader," said Bill Hogan of the Center for Public Integrity, a nonprofit research group. "They had an ocean of money, and where it comes from and where it goes doesn't have to be disclosed. These organizations skirt the very fine print of the Federal regulations. It's secret money, and the level of it is worse today than during Watergate."

Working outside the confines of the Republican Party, Triad, a profit-making consulting group, came up with ways for conservative donors—including corporations, which are prohibited from giving directly to Congressional candidates—to get money to tight races where conservative Republicans stood a chance of victory. The money was often channeled into television advertisements through nonprofit organizations—including one headed by Lyn Nofziger, a former aide to President Ronald Reagan who was convicted of three felony ethics violations—in ways that make it impossible to

trace the sources or the amounts of the donations.

In a year in which one new loophole after another in campaign finance law was being exploited, Triad carved out a unique role as a middleman and showed how nonprofits could be used to steer money into Congressional races. Triad did not collect campaign dollars itself. Rather, it advised individual donors on which candidates and political action committees to support. And it found donors, whose names were never disclosed, to contribute to nonprofit groups that used Triad to design attack advertisements.

In exchange for this, Triad collected a fee from the individual donors and took a portion of the money raised for the television advertisements. While there are many Washington consulting firms that advise candidates and parties, Triad is the rare one that advises donors.

For a fee, Triad would advise donors like Mr. Coates on which Congressional candidates and conservative political action committees to support. In doing so, Triad enabled conservative donors to maximize the impact of their dollars by coming up with back-door, but legal, ways for them to get money to Republican candidates in amounts above the \$2,000 Federal contribution limits.

This happened when Triad donors gave to candidates and to political action committees that would, in all likelihood, make donations to the same candidates. Using Mr. Coates as an example, he and his wife, Anne, gave \$5,000 to the Eagle Forum, a PAC headed by the anti-abortion leader Phyllis Schlafly, which gave money to candidates to whom the Coateses had already given.

For instance, the Coateses had already contributed \$2,000 to Randy Tate, a Republican Congressional candidate in Washington. Eagle Forum's political committee gave him an additional \$7,000. The Coateses gave \$2,000 to Sam Brownback, a Republican running for Mr. Dole's vacant seat in Kansas. Eagle Forum gave \$7,000. The Coateses gave \$3,800 to Jean Leising, a Republican Congressional candidate in Indiana, and the Eagle Forum contributed \$5,000.

Similarly, the Coateses gave \$5,000 to something called the American Free Enterprise PAC, which in turn, gave \$7,000 to Mr. Tate and \$4,500 to Mr. Brownback. In all, the Coateses donated to 14 conservative political action committees and 21 Congressional candidates; 17 of those candidates received money from the PAC's that had received money from Mr. and Mrs. Coates.

"I turned to Triad for research, and I liked their recommendations," Mr. Coates said. "I mailed checks to PAC's and candidates that shared my pro-life Christian values. But what the PAC's did with that money, I had no idea. They got no direction from me."

The role of Triad is under scrutiny by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, headed by Senator Fred Thompson, Republican of Tennessee. Under prodding from the Democratic minority, the committee recently subpoenaed Triad and two nonprofit organizations hired by Triad to find donors and produce last-minute multimillion-dollar advertising blitzes attacking Democrats.

One nonprofit is Citizens for Reform, headed by Peter Flaherty, a one-time campaign manager for President Reagan. Citizens for Reform raised and spent \$2 million from August to October 1996 on races in 10 states, with the most going to Kansas and California. Mr. Flaherty said in an interview that Triad had raised all the money for his group, which was founded last spring, and had spent it for him.

"We played a major role in the 1996 election, and we are quite happy with our results," Mr. Flaherty said. "Triad produced our television ads, drafted scripts and bought

television time. They basically managed it and lined up vendors for a television campaign and for our direct mail and phone banks."

Citizens for Reform, as a nonprofit organization, is not required to disclose its donations. Because it engages in some lobbying, however, donations to it are not tax-deductible.

In fact, it is the promise of anonymity—as well as a sky-is-the-limit rule on donations—that makes these nonprofit groups popular among big donors. Unlike contributions to individual Federal office-seekers and PAC's, there are no limits on how much can be donated to a nonprofit. And corporations, which are barred from donating to Federal candidates, can give to nonprofits.

"Privacy is important to our donors," said Mr. Flaherty, who added that his nonprofit did not take foreign money. "Nondisclosure is something we definitely point out."

The lack of disclosure, however, troubles some. "This is completely invisible money," said Kenneth Gross, former enforcement chief for the Federal Election Commission. "At least soft money is disclosed. This money isn't. It's one thing to have money that is under the radar screen. Money from nonprofits isn't even close to the radar screen."

The second nonprofit Triad advised was Citizens for the Republic Education Fund, where Mr. Nofziger is a director. This group spent \$2 million at the end of the 1996 election on advertisements produced and designed by Triad with money Triad had found for the nonprofit group. These spots focused on United States Senate races in Arkansas, especially against Winston Bryant, a Democrat who lost.

Mr. Nofziger declined to comment beyond saying, "As long as they are fiddling around

with Senate hearings, it's best for me not to talk."

Triad's founder and president is Carolyn Malenick, a former fundraiser for Mr. North. She also heads Citizens for the Republic Education Fund. Ms. Malenick's commitment to the conservative cause is well known, as is her fund-raising prowess.

"Carolyn is a terrific fund-raiser," Mr. Flaherty said. "She has a Midas touch. She has a bigger vision than others. People were never asked to contribute at this level before."

Triad collects a management fee based on donations to the two non-profits—in essence, a cut of all the money they raise. In addition, Ms. Malenick charges some donors a fee for her advice, on a sliding scale.

"My clients are typically socially conservative businessmen and women," Ms. Malenick said in an interview. "I provide them with due diligence, or research, in the political environment. If you want to buy stocks, you go to a stockbroker and get research and advice. That's what I do in the political arena, which is heavily regulated."

"We don't dictate or tell my clients what to do. We say, 'Here are the campaign giving limits and here are the laws.' We say, 'Here are the candidates who are viable and who feel the way you do.'"

Mark Braden, former general counsel of the Republican National Committee and Ms. Malenick's lawyer, compared her to a corporate consultant. "Carolyn has taken a Fortune 500 activity, consulting, and moved it to a group of socially conservative rich folks," Mr. Braden said. "And it's worked well."

One group Ms. Malenick said she did not work with closely is the Republican Party, although Republicans like Senator Don Nickles of Oklahoma have appeared in her literature. "I'm not an agent of the Repub-

lican Party," Ms. Malenick said. "I don't work for them. We choose where to get involved, and there is no need to tell them."

Rich Galen, a spokesman for the National Republican Congressional Committee, confirmed that view but acknowledged social ties between Triad's principals and the party. "Lots of people in this town get seen in the same places," Mr. Galen said. "So I don't want you to think some of these people don't show up in the same place and have a drink. But we do not do any coordination with them. That would be improper."

As well as illegal. One of the questions Senate Democrats want answered involves the extent of coordination, if any, between Triad, the nonprofits and the Republican Party. If coordination is shown, then Triad's nonprofit organizations could face the same disclosure and spending limits as other political committees.

Those on the receiving end of Triad's advertisements said they had been stunned by the onslaught. Jill Docking, a Democrat, was in a dead heat with Mr. Brownback for the Kansas seat vacated by Mr. Dole. She saw her chances vanish after an advertising blitz.

"We couldn't figure out where the ads were coming from," said Ms. Docking, a Wichita stockbroker. "Even more frustrating was the massive deluge. The ads came at me in every direction in the last weeks. There were five or six of these ads to every one of mine. Our television looked pretty pitiful. It clearly swayed the election."

Those who benefited from Triad's activities, like Senator Brownback, said they did not have a hand in the advertisements.

Still, the spots did not hurt. Said David Kensinger, Mr. Brownback's deputy campaign manager, "Never look a gift horse in the mouth."

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 21

9 a.m.
United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control
To hold hearings on counterinsurgency vs. counter-narcotics issues in regards to Colombia.

SH-216

9:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on issues relating to hybrid pension plans.

SD-106

SEPTEMBER 22

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on Indian trust fund reform.

SR-485

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-430

10 a.m.
Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
To hold hearings to receive testimony on the national security requirements and continued training operations at the Vieques Training Range.

SR-222

SEPTEMBER 23

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold oversight hearings to explore the potential consequences of the year 2000 computer problem to the Nation's supply of electricity.

SD-366

10 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on the nomination of Richard A. Meserve, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; the nomination of Paul L. Hill, Jr., of West Virginia, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board; the nomination of Major General Phillip R. Anderson, United States Army, to be a Member and President of the Mississippi River Commission, under the provisions of Section 2 of an Act of Congress, approved June 1879 (21 Stat. 37) (33 USC 642); the nomination of Sam Epstein Angel, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Mississippi River Commission; and the nomination of Brigadier General Robert H. Griffin, United States Army, to be a Member of the Mississippi River Commission, under the provisions of Section 2 of an Act of Congress, approved June 1879 (21 Stat. 37) (33 USC 642).

SD-406

SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.
Veterans Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.
345 Cannon Building

SEPTEMBER 29

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 1508, to provide technical and legal assistance for tribal justice systems and members of Indian tribes.

SR-485

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the practices of the Bureau of Reclamation regarding operations and maintenance costs and contract renewals.

SD-366

SEPTEMBER 30

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 1457, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to assess opportunities to increase carbon storage on national forests derived from the public domain and to facilitate voluntary and accurate reporting of forest projects that reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations.

SD-366

OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-485